# **EXHIBIT** X

Redacted

Button et al v. McCawley

Amended Complaint

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2	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURTSOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDALED BYD.	
3	SOUTHERN DISTRICT	<b>5</b>
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7	DUSTY BUTTON AND MITCHELL Ca	se No: 0:24-cv-60911-DSL
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10	PLAINTIFFS,	AMENDED COMPLAINT AND
11	,   V.	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
12	SIGRID MCCAWLEY	
13	DEEENDANT	
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19.	Plaintiffs Dusty Button and Mitchell 1	Taylor Button, (together, "Plaintiffs") file
20	this Amended Complaint and sue Defendant Sigrid McCawley and allege as follows:	
21	this Amended Complaint and sue Defendant Signa McCawley and allege as follows.	
22		
23	NATURE OF THE ACTION	
24	1. This Amended Complaint is filed as a matter of course pursuant to Federal Rule of	
25	Civil Procedure 15(a)(1)(B). See Ramirez v. Cty. of San Bernardino, 806 F.3d 1002,	
26	1008 (9th Cir. 2015) ("[A]n amended complaint supersedes the original" rendering a	
27	motion to dismiss the original complaint "moot").	
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	1 AMENDED COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR IURY TRIAL	

- 2. This is an action arising from Sigrid McCawley's transmission and publication of intentionally false and defamatory statements made to innumerable third parties, the media, the press and hundreds of thousands of members of the general public including but not limited to any and all potential jurors about Plaintiffs Dusty Button and Taylor Button.
- 3. More specifically, (as set forth herein), this case is about the perpetrator and Defendant Sigrid McCawley, who exploited her position of power and influence as a famous, globally renowned and frequently televised attorney, to orchestrate a false and defamatory foundation in order to assure the careers, businesses, reputations and well-known and respected good names of the Plaintiffs in this case were *entirely decimated* prior to bringing forth a fraudulent lawsuit on behalf of her clients and their fabricated, false allegations, thus *intentionally* crippling Plaintiffs' finances and rendering them incapable of defending themselves against the fraudulent litigation she and her clients *strategically* published on the world stage *prior* to Plaintiffs ever learning that they were being sued¹.
- 4. This case is about Sigrid McCawley, an attorney who *knowingly* violated the model rules of professional conduct by making extrajudicial statements that *she knew* would

¹ On July 28th, 2021, the New York Times published interviews with Sigrid McCawley and her clients, including false and defamatory statements about Plaintiffs - <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2021/07/29/arts/dance/mitchell-button-dusty-button-abuse.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2021/07/29/arts/dance/mitchell-button-dusty-button-abuse.html</a>. Plaintiffs received an email via discovery in the Nevada litigation proving Sigrid McCawley and PR Team member Dawn Schneider arranged an interview with Julia Jacobs of the New York Times which took place on July 26th, 2021. The New York Times article was published on the same day the complaint was filed, July 28th, 2021, and prior to Mr. Button ever being served or having knowledge of the complaint. Additionally, as discussed further herein, to no coincidence; Plaintiffs contacted Julia Jacobs in 2023 addressing the defamatory article, were referred to her attorney David McCraw who then deferred Plaintiffs to a different attorney who replaced his representation of Julia Jacobs which was none other than Demetri Blaisdell, former associate of Boies Schiller Flexner LLP, who threatened Plaintiffs once learning Plaintiffs intended to sue The New York Times and Julia Jacobs for defamation. Further, when Ms. McCawley's client, Sage Humphries was deposed and questioned regarding the New York Times article being published prior to Mr. Button being served, she stated, "We wanted to release the story alongside the complaint [...]" verifying that Ms. McCawley unethically played to the media and the press by arranging and requesting interviews for her clients.

- be disseminated by means of public communication and would have a substantial likelihood of materially prejudicing an adjudicative proceeding in the matter, by making *knowingly false statements* in the media and in the press against Plaintiffs in order to create *severe bias* of **any potential juror** and the public.
- 5. This is not a case of Plaintiffs "disagreeing" or "disapproving" false statements published about them in the media; this case is an exemplary example of someone with power, fortune, fame and influence, egregiously making and amplifying knowingly false and defamatory statements with actual malice to a mass audience aggressively, proudly, publicly and repeatedly, as an orchestrated attack to destroy the livelihoods, businesses, careers and reputations of Plaintiffs though targeted deployments of defamation to mass audiences including to those who not only subscribed to every move that Plaintiffs made in their respective careers but to those who merely received daily news by way of the media and the press in a defamatory global media campaign waged against Plaintiffs.
- 6. This case is about an attorney who, (blinded by her selfish career aspirations), blatantly abused her power and influence in the media and in the press as she weaponized the fame garnered from her representation of Virginia Giuffre in the Jeffrey Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell case to defame, severely harass and threaten Plaintiffs who she strategically and repeatedly attempts to equate to Epstein and Maxwell in the eyes of her massive public audience to further her image and ride the Epstein wave on the backs of Plaintiffs, who are drowning in the defamation she uses as her vessel.

- 7. Indeed, the Defendant personally architected and orchestrated the narrative of her clients' case *prior to preparation* of her clients' complaint whereas, the complaint in and of itself is malicious and defamatory however, the defamatory statements made by Ms. McCawley described herein were made *outside* of the parameters of privilege and the malicious litigation she created; her statements were *knowingly reckless* and harmful yet wrongfully justified by her egotistical eagerness to ensure the media and the press published the narrative that she was representing another couple akin to "Epstein and Maxwell", who abused and trafficked children; a repulsive and false narrative in its entirety.
- 8. Ms. McCawley *knowingly* made false and defamatory statements to garner public attention prior to filing her clients' complaint and is continuing.
- 9. Ms. McCawley must be ordered to stop harassing and defaming Plaintiffs through false and defamatory statements in the media, in the press and to third-parties.
- 10. The statements made by Ms. McCawley were not and are not privileged whereas, her defamatory statements did not serve the purpose of the judicial proceeding, enhance its function or legitimately achieve its objects and all of her statements were directed to news reporters with no interest in the judicial proceeding outside of their capacity as news reporters<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> Helena Chemical Company v. Pamela Uribe, et al., \_\_\_\_P.3d\_\_\_\_(N.M. Ct. App. Mar. 30, 2011) whereas, the Court stated, "We hold that the absolute privilege is unavailable under the circumstances in this case where the alleged defamatory statements were made to news reporters who had no relationship or interest in the judicial proceeding contemplated and filed."

- 11. Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were *unethically* made outside of litigation, to the media, the press and the public to intentionally and specifically *influence any* potential juror or person who learned of her clients' allegations and her maliciously frivolous case against Plaintiffs.
- 12. This case is about Defendant's intentional infliction of harm against Plaintiffs including by ensuring the media and the press interviewed and published her clients' and her false allegations prior to Plaintiffs ever being served or even having knowledge of the lawsuit itself, assuring bias against Plaintiffs by way of the defamatory statements made in the media and the press and which were covered globally by virtually every news publication and media outlet beginning May 13th, 2021 and perpetuating to date.
- 13. As detailed and proven further herein, Ms. McCawley was in possession of all unfounded false police reports and statements, all of which were cleared by exception and had knowledge that both Plaintiffs had never committed nor had they or have they currently ever been charged or convicted of any crime as she continued to spread false, defamatory and misleading statements by telling the media, the public and the world that Plaintiffs are, "a pair of perpetrators who are highly sophisticated, highly manipulative, and are continuing [...]".
- 14. Ms. McCawley *knew* that her statement was false and defamatory but misled the public and any potential juror to believe Plaintiffs had committed a multitude of heinous crimes and were continuing to commit crimes, all of which Ms. McCawley manipulated the world to believe that Plaintiffs had been charged for, thus rendering them *criminals* and eliminating any fair due process for Plaintiffs before they even

step foot in the Courtroom by implying false facts which were not formed as an opinion resulting in unsubstantiated claims to the press with no interest in the judicial proceeding outside of their capacity as news reporters.

- 15. The defamatory statements made to the media and the press by Ms. McCawley were, and are now and forever false in their entirety, and were made by Defendant with actual malice and/or with a reckless disregard for the truth given that Defendant knew her statements were patently and demonstrably false following her self-professed "hundreds of hours of research and interviews" which the Court will find could have only resulted in one possible outcome, that the claims she made to the media were false and defamatory in their entirety, solely meant to garner fame and notoriety<sup>3</sup>.
- 16. Defendant made these defamatory statements, which were communicated and published to *millions* of readers and/or viewers, with the intent to harm Plaintiffs given that, *inter alia*, Defendant was and is aware of the truth regarding her defamatory statements and was aware at the time she made those defamatory statements, that they were false.
- 17. Defendant's defamatory statements were intentionally published to provide traction for her clients' litigation against Dusty and Taylor Button to ignite extreme disgust and reaction from the public in turn, villainizing Plaintiffs to gain an advantage for her clients in the Court of public opinion, a Court that no attorney should play to.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Plaintiffs filed Rule 11 Sanctions against Ms. McCawley and her clients (Nevada District Court - 2:21-cv-01412-ART-EJY, ECF Nos. 185, 192, 219, 333, 334, 355, 356 and 363), Jane Doe 1 (who Plaintiffs have never met), and Sage Humphries, (Plaintiffs' ex-girlfriend). Ms. McCawley claimed to have spent hundreds of hours diligently researching and investigating her clients as required by Rule 11 however, this statement cannot be true if she believes her statement is true as the hours of research would have given her the information to make an informed decision that her clients were not only lying and committing fraud, but that the statement made to the media that Plaintiffs were criminals, was false. She cannot claim that both statements are true; either she did not research her clients as she stated and she thought her statement to be true OR she researched her clients diligently and knowingly made defamatory statements.

18. Ms. McCawley knew that her defamatory statements would spread like wildfire, and they did; ultimately going viral<sup>4</sup> to the extent of a globally televised interview on a major news publication, which in turn, *immediately* caused further and complete destruction of Plaintiffs' businesses, careers and reputations, resulting in the termination of *all employment* for Plaintiffs then and for the foreseeable future.

### THE PARTIES

- 19. Plaintiff Dusty Button is an individual who resides and is domiciled in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Ms. Button is the wife of Plaintiff Taylor Button.
- 20. Plaintiff Taylor Button is an individual who resides and is domiciled in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Mr. Button is the husband of Plaintiff Dusty Button.
- 21. Upon belief, Defendant Sigrid McCawley is an individual who resides and is domiciled in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and is an attorney and managing partner with Boies Schiller & Flexner LLP in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 22. Plaintiffs are citizens of the State of South Carolina for purposes of diversity jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C § 1332.
- 23. Defendant is a citizen of the State of Florida for purposes of diversity jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332.
- 24. This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction with respect to this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332 as there exists complete diversity of citizenship between Plaintiffs and Defendant and the amount in controversy exceeds seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00), exclusive of interests and costs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Viral – relating to or involving an image, video, piece of information, etc., that is circulated rapidly and widely from one internet use to another.

- 25. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C § 1391(b), venue is proper in this Court because the Defendant resides in this district.
- 26. The Court has general jurisdiction over Defendant as she is a resident of this State.
- 27. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) and (b)(3) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in this district by virtue of the transmission and publication of the false and defamatory statements in this district (and elsewhere) and also because Defendant is subject to this Court's personal jurisdiction with respect to this action.

## **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

- 28. Plaintiff Dusty Button was a world-renowned ballet dancer who trained at the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at the American Ballet Theatre in New York City. In 2007, she joined the Royal Ballet School in London and in 2008 she joined Birmingham Royal Ballet in England.
- 29. In 2011, Ms. Button danced with American Ballet Theatre.
- 30. Ms. Button is best known for her work with the Boston Ballet, which she joined in 2012 and was promoted to their highest position of principal ballerina in 2014.
- 31. Ms. Button was Red Bull's first and only ballet athlete and has been published in media publications across the globe, positively influencing hundreds of thousands of people nationally and internationally, including by performing and teaching in over thirty different countries and across the United States.
- 32. Plaintiff Dusty Button's Instagram account, @dusty\_button, at the time of the events described herein, amassed nearly half of a million followers and subscribers.

- 33. Ms. Button deleted her social media account in 2021 after succumbing to trauma from severe cyber bullying and harassment which Plaintiff endured as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements, in an unethical play to a mass audience and waging a defamatory global media campaign against Dusty to destroy her livelihood, career, reputation and business and to gain attention and traction for her clients' false and fraudulent complaints.
- 34. Plaintiff Mitchell Taylor Button, ("Taylor Button"), was one of the world's *most* influential custom Ferrari and military vehicle designers and builders for seven years, approximately from 2014 2021, with his work having been published in media publications across the globe for his automotive design, builds and work in the industry.
- 35. Plaintiff has positively influenced hundreds of thousands of people nationally and internationally and has been procured from global organizations for speaking engagements and commissions that continue to live on with his legacy today despite the destruction of his life's work by Sigrid McCawley.
- 36. Plaintiff Taylor Button's Instagram account, @button\_built, at the time of the events described herein, amassed nearly half of a million followers and subscribers.
- 37. Mr. Button deleted his account in 2021 after succumbing to the severe cyber bullying and harassment which Plaintiff endured as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements, in an unethical play to a mass audience and waging a global media campaign against Taylor to destroy his livelihood, career, reputation and business and to gain attention and traction for her clients' false and fraudulent complaints.

- 38. Plaintiffs' names and likeness was their business and generated one hundred percent of their yearly revenue whereas, Plaintiffs, themselves and what they provided to their respective industries was solely based on what they provided as their name brands, known as Dusty Button, Taylor Button, Mitch/Mitchell Button, Mitchell Taylor Button, "The Buttons", Button Built, Button Brand, Bravado by Dusty Button, Meisturwerk and Meisturwerk Machinen.
- 39. Plaintiffs' established businesses, goods and services were directly sourced and provided from their good names, talent, expertise, reputations, skills, manufacturing and marketing capabilities, which were **completely destroyed** by Sigrid McCawley and her *abuse of power* to influence the media, the public, the press and any potential juror as a famous, *world-renowned* attorney.
- 40. A culture of defamation permeates and plagues the #MeToo movement, particularly in the entertainment industries and has in turn, destroyed the credibility of real victims everywhere, while simultaneously mocking the judicial system and enabling people to weaponize the civil justice system with false accusations, which ultimately have the same consequence on innocent lives as they would if they were true accusations against guilty parties, rendering Courts and Parties afraid to defend against claims of this magnitude due to the inevitable nuclear social fallout.
- 41. The culture of defamation has dialed the integrity of civil litigation back decades, as recently seen in cases around the world such as *Depp v. Heard*<sup>5</sup>, *Bauer v. Hill*<sup>6</sup> and recently, the Eleanor Williams<sup>7</sup> case in England, all of which proved innocent parties'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Depp v. Heard, No. CL-2019-2911 (Va. Cir. Ct. Jul. 25, 2019)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Trevor Bauer v. Lindsey C. Hill (8:22-cv-00868) District Court, C.D. California

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/R-y-Eleanor-Williams-sentencing.pdf

lives were *completely destroyed* by false and defamatory statements, not only in litigation, but in the media and in the press.

42. Other prominent dancers have been publicly defamed and severely harassed in past years, through fraudulent and defamatory statements online including but not limited to British dancer and choreographer Liam Scarlett, who sadly took his own life as a direct cause of false and defamatory statements in the media and through industry gossip.

"We feel Liam would not have taken his life if his name hadn't been dragged through the press with inaccurate allegations", stated by Deborah Scarlett, Liam's mother.

- 43. Liam Scarlett was cleared of any wrongdoing, but only *after* his death which included the false and defamatory statements of misconduct with children, which were *all* proven to be false statements but which were never acknowledged or rectified by any media source to date, much like the false and defamatory statements made by Sigrid McCawley.
- 44. As alleged further herein, Sigrid McCawley is an extremely well-known member of the Florida Bar Association, a self-proclaimed and renowned advocate for victims of sex trafficking, (including but not limited to her representation of Virginia Giuffre) and decorated attorney including:
  - Litigator of the Year by The American Lawyer; Top Ten Female Litigator
    in 2020 and 2021 by Benchmark Litigation; Finalist for Attorney of the
    Year in Florida by Daily Business Review; Most Effective Lawyer in
    Arbitration by Daily Business Review; Leading Lawyer in America by

LawDragon; and Thought Leader 2021 by Corporate Counsel and a finalist for The American Lawyer's Attorney of the Year for her work representing victims of sexual abuse.

- 45. Sigrid McCawley currently represents six clients, (*pro hac vice*), in the District Court of Nevada with pending complaints against Plaintiffs, which were filed on July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 and December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 that carry with them Plaintiffs' current pending Motion to Dismiss and Counterclaim against *all six* of Ms. McCawley's clients<sup>8</sup>.
- 46. Ms. McCawley has not only used manipulative and unethically strategic tactics in the Courtroom but has used those same tactics to defame, harass and completely destroy the livelihoods, reputations, businesses and careers of Plaintiffs even before they knew they were being sued in order to prevent them from being able to generate revenue necessary to fund a defense for themselves ironically, against a *vexatious*, litigation.
- 47. Ms. McCawley continues to be protected in the Courtroom regardless of the unethical tactics she uses against pro se Plaintiffs as she is self-portrayed as the awarded "victims advocate" who "took down Epstein", though her firm is famously known for its illegal and disgraceful relationships and representation of Harvey Weinstein and Theranos amongst many others.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> One of Ms. McCawley's clients, Juliet Doherty, voluntarily dismissed her claims against Plaintiffs on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Plaintiffs have since filed a federal lawsuit against Juliet Doherty, her mother and her photographer for sexual assault, malicious prosecution and defamation amongst other claims in the Southern District Court of New York. Ms. McCawley has since referred to Plaintiffs' lawsuit against her and her client as "vexatious" and an effort to silence and intimidate Ms. McCawley and her clients from speaking to the press. Plaintiffs make it clear to this Court that they have been unable to seek the justice they deserve after being completely stripped of everything they ever worked for; accordingly, Plaintiffs seek consequence for the egregious actions committed by Sigrid McCawley, her clients and those third-parties which aided them. See case: 1:24-cv-05026-LTS

- 48. Ms. McCawley continues to enjoy success as a managing partner at Boies Schiller Flexner LLP while garnering media attention from around the globe in relation to her representation in the Epstein case as well as the litigation in Nevada against Plaintiffs, which she *meticulously*, yet *redundantly* and *exhaustingly* compares to the case of the disgraced and renowned couple, Epstein and Maxwell, largely contributing to the complete destruction Plaintiffs everything Plaintiffs have ever worked for rendering them jobless and homeless, without a single asset to their names<sup>9</sup>.
- 49. Plaintiffs have suffered *unimaginable* loss to their businesses, careers, reputations, finances, mental health, and overall livelihood and will continue to suffer as a direct and proximate result of Sigrid McCawley's conduct for the painfully foreseeable future.
- 50. Defendant's actions in publishing and making false and defamatory statements were both negligent as she had reckless disregard for the truth and done so with actual malice as she knew her statements were false prior to making them.
- 51. If it were not for Defendant's arrangement of interviews and unethical play to the media, the litigation in Nevada would have never generated the media blitz it did once Sigrid McCawley initiated the frenzy of publications following the publication of the New York Times article on July 28th, 2021, as the complaint would have been a private matter due to the fact that Plaintiffs are not and were not public figures.
- 52. Plaintiffs have *no income*, no ability to generate income due to the defamatory global media campaign Ms. McCawley attached to their names<sup>10</sup> and have generated *no*

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Plaintiffs are currently enrolled in government assisted programs in South Carolina, such as SNAP for food and Medicaid for Plaintiffs' pregnancy as they are expecting their first child in the beginning of August, 2024.
<sup>10</sup> Plaintiffs have even been kicked out of restaurants as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements and global media campaign waged against them which she arranged.

income since the onset of the defamatory statements as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's intentional infliction of emotional distress and harm on Plaintiffs in order to amplify her representation of her clients' false and frivolous allegations that in themselves had already been amplified through every media source imaginable.

53. Sigrid McCawley intentionally, willfully and maliciously destroyed Plaintiffs' livelihoods, businesses and future ability to generate work or income in both of Plaintiffs' respective industries for the foreseeable future; as their names, likeness and reputations were *obliterated* as a direct and proximate result of Sigrid McCawley's intentionally harmful, harassing and defamatory statements, unethical play to the media and violation of ethical and moral rules of conduct.

#### A. The Nevada District Court Matters

- 54. On July 28th, 2021, Sage Humphries and Gina Menichino, (represented by Sigrid McCawley and associates from Boies Schiller & Flexner), filed a civil complaint against Plaintiff Taylor Button<sup>11</sup>.
- 55. Plaintiffs discovered through the headlining front-page publishing of The New York
  Times that this complaint was filed, *prior* to Plaintiff Taylor Button even being served.
- 56. Plaintiff Dusty Button was not named as a Defendant in Ms. Humphries' or Ms. Menichino's complaint.
- 57. Plaintiff Dusty Button has never met Gina Menichino.
- 58. The allegations brought forth in the complaint three years ago are fraudulent in and of themselves however, Plaintiffs have since deposed all of Sigrid McCawley's clients and received discovery which proves Sigrid McCawley not only lied to the Court but

<sup>11</sup> See Nevada District Court Case: 2:21-cy-01412-ART-EJY

continued to manipulate the allegations and "backtrack", (once Plaintiffs' provided evidence proving their crime of perjury to the Court), in order to protect her name, her BAR license and her clients' fraud to the extent of hiring BAR counsel to defend against the complaints currently pending against her.

- 59. Ms. McCawley knew the statements she made in the media and the press were defamatory and that it would seriously compromise the litigation including by tainting a potential Juror's opinion prior to trial; Ms. McCawley is not innocent in her actions as she was in possession of materials which proved the very statements, she made were false, verified through her own declarations.
- 60. As seen further within this complaint, Ms. McCawley had knowledge that her statements were false but made them anyway.
- 61. Following The New York Times publishing of Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements and her clients' defamatory statements, Plaintiff Taylor Button was served with the complaint filed by Sage Humphries and Gina Menichino on July 29th, 2021.
- 62. The New York Times publication was *detrimental* to Plaintiffs as it not only contained false and fraudulent allegations related to the frivolous litigation, but it intentionally and falsely stated that Plaintiffs, together, abused Ms. Humphries and Ms. Menichino as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's manipulative narrative which she so desperately forced on the public as comparison to Epstein and Maxwell.
- 63. Ms. Menichino was once, a dance student at Centerstage Dance Academy where Plaintiff Taylor Button taught contemporary dance in 2009.
- 64. Ms. Humphries was *never* a student of Taylor or Dusty Button's but was in fact, a coworker of Ms. Buttons and was, in 2017, in an open consensual dating relationship,

(as an adult), with both Plaintiffs, as verified through countless documents including video, photo, messages and Ms. Humphries' own deposition testimony and admissions.

- 65. The New York Times article was reposted hundreds of thousands of times, additionally causing third parties within Plaintiffs' industries to further defame them including that it was posted to at least three different platforms whereas, each platform consists of a different audience<sup>12</sup>.
- 66. On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, Plaintiffs were met with an amended complaint by Ms. McCawley whereas, she and her associates *recruited* three more litigants whom they added to the amended complaint, as verified through the admissions and depositions of those recruits; Plaintiff Taylor Button's ex-girlfriend from the same dance studio as Gina Menichino in 2009, Danielle Gutierrez, another woman from the same dance studio in 2009, Rosie DeAngelo and a woman Plaintiffs have never met or heard of, known as Jane Doe 1, (formerly known as Jane Doe 100).
- 67. Following Ms. McCawley's filing of the amended complaint, she arranged for her clients' to be interviewed by Cosmopolitan Magazine which included further defamatory, false and misleading statements made by Ms. McCawley and her clients to again, pour a false foundation and garner misguided attention from the pliable

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> In Kanerak v. Bugliosi, an allegedly libelous book that was republished in paperback form, although identical in form and content to the earlier hardcover edition, was intended to and did reach a new group of readers, and therefore constituted the basis for a new cause of action. The Second Restatement of Torts states that the single publication rule does not include separate aggregate publications on different occasions. In these cases, if the publication reaches a new group, the repetition justifies a new cause of action. The originator of defamatory matter may be liable for each "repetition" of the defamatory matter by a second party "if he could reasonably have foreseen the repetition."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Sigrid McCawley originally filed Jane Doe 1 as Jane Doe 100 in order to lead the public to believe there were hundreds of victims, sensationalizing the complaint for the media. On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, the Court ordered Ms. McCawley to refer to Jane Doe 100 as Jane Doe 1.

- public, easily manipulated by her position of power and ensuring the defamatory statements to the media would bias any potential juror.
- 68. The allegations brought forth by all three litigants are false in their entirety however, these three complaints prove Sigrid McCawley's defamation further as her defamatory statements about Plaintiffs *are not supported* by the allegations *even if* the allegations were true, (they are not); Ms. McCawley made statements of fact which were not privileged<sup>14</sup>.
- 69. Plaintiff Dusty Button has never met any of the three litigants added to the amended complaint which include Danielle Gutierrez, Rosemarie DeAngelo and Jane Doe 1.
- 70. In fact, Plaintiff Dusty Button has never met or heard of Jane Doe 1.
- 71. In fact, Plaintiff Taylor Button has never met or heard of Jane Doe 1.
- 72. Signid McCawley *intentionally, maliciously and knowingly* created a further, false narrative for her clients, which she portrayed to the media and which was entirely and knowingly false and defamatory to gain shock value from the public, globally, to ensure bias any potential juror.
- 73. On December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Plaintiffs were **again**, met with an amended complaint; "The Second Amended Complaint", by Sigrid McCawley; two more litigants were added, Plaintiff Taylor Button's Jane Doe 2<sup>15</sup> and Juliet Doherty, another professional dancer, who Plaintiffs met on one occasion, but who has now withdrawn and revoked her claims against Plaintiffs in their entirety.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> ABA Model Rule of Professional Conduct 3.6 cautions lawyers not to make any "extrajudicial statement" that the lawyer knows or reasonably should know, "will have a substantial likelihood of materially prejudicing an adjudicative proceeding in the matter."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Sigrid McCawley originally filed Jane Doe 2 as Jane Doe 200 in order to lead the public to believe there were hundreds of victims, sensationalizing the complaint for the media. On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, the Court ordered Ms. McCawley to refer to Jane Doe 200 as Jane Doe 2.

- 74. The allegations brought forth by these two litigants are false in their entirety *however*, these two complaints prove Sigrid McCawley's defamation further as her defamatory statements about Plaintiffs *are not* supported by the allegations *even if* the allegations were true, (they are not).
- 75. Plaintiff Dusty Button has never met Jane Doe 2.
- 76. Plaintiff Juliet Doherty voluntarily withdrew herself from the litigation after Taylor and Dusty Button proved her allegations to be fraudulent, the day after Plaintiffs requested admissions from her and sent discovery proving her allegations to be fraudulent.
- 77. Ms. McCawley's intentionally false and defamatory statements only escalated each time the complaint was amended, further defaming, harassing and causing Plaintiffs extreme distress.
- 78. Due to Ms. McCawley's false and defamatory statements to the New York Times and her inner connections with the publishing company, The New York Times intentionally and falsely published that Plaintiffs "denied the charges".
- 79. Plaintiffs have never been charged with a crime, as none have been committed.
- 80. As one example, and as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's false and defamatory statements in the press and the media, further defamatory statements about Plaintiffs were made including in The Daily Mail which published, "Boston prima ballerina Dusty Button, 33, was accused last year by seven women of sexual abuse along with her husband Mitchell Button, 37"; as stated, supra, Plaintiff Dusty Button has only met one of Sigrid McCawley's clients, Sage Humphries, and Plaintiff Taylor Button has never

- met Jane Doe 1 and additionally, Plaintiffs did not teach Ms. McCawley's clients together as students, which is precisely the false narrative Ms. McCawley created.
- 81. As another example, ABC7 New York published, "Former ballet star Dusty Button and her husband are accused of sexually abusing several dancers, including a minor" [...].
- 82. As another example, Ms. McCawley's interview with Law.com falsely stated, "When Boies Schiller Flexner managing partner Sigrid McCawley told the makers of the Netflix documentary "Jeffrey Epstein: Filthy Rich" that she was committed to stopping sexual predators through litigation, one viewer was reminded of something she'd tried in vain to forget. That viewer was Boston Ballet dancer Sage Humphries, who claims she was repeatedly sexually assaulted by her dance instructor in 2017 when she was 19 years old". Ms. McCawley knew her client never once alleged to anyone, including her, that she was assaulted by her "dance instructor" in 2017 and instead, was in a consensual dating relationship with both Plaintiffs, whereas Plaintiff Mitchell Taylor Button was not a dance instructor, nor was he Sage Humphries' dance instructor and in fact, had not been a dance instructor or involved in the dance industry since 2010; Dusty Button was never Ms. Humphries' dance instructor as they were coworkers at Boston Ballet.
- 83. Ms. McCawley's narrative that Plaintiffs were a pair of dance instructors abusing seven women went viral; this was *intentionally* crafted by Ms. McCawley as this shocking narrative comprised of frivolous trigger words was picked up by the media and the press instantaneously.
- 84. This particular defamatory statement which was published globally, was a direct result of Ms. McCawley's knowingly false and defamatory statement as she stated to the media, "As put forth in our complaint, Dusty and Taylor Button assaulted seven

- different dancers, including women who have chosen to make their claims anonymously".
- 85. Indeed, Ms. McCawley's statements were intentionally false and defamatory as she knew the complaint, which she wrote, did not "put forth" that "Dusty and Taylor Button assaulted seven different dancers".
- 86. As previously stated, Plaintiff Dusty Button has met only one of Ms. McCawley's clients which was only Sage Humphries, who to date has not named Dusty Button as a Defendant in her complaint.
- 87. Plaintiff Taylor Button has never met or heard of Jane Doe 1.
- 88. Four of the women who filed complaints brought forth false allegations from 2008 and 2009, all four of which Plaintiff Dusty Button has never met or known.
- 89. In 2018, **four** of Ms. McCawley's clients lied to law enforcement including three who filed statements and/or false reports in Florida with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department whereas, the State Attorney officially declined to move forward with any charges against Mr. Button and the matter was closed in November 2018; now these women continue to harass and falsely abuse the McToo movement against Plaintiff Taylor Button who has endured severe emotional trauma because of these heinous and false allegations aided by Sigrid McCawley in the media and the press.
- 90. Signid McCawley was in possession of *every single report* and document including case closure forms *prior* to making her false and defamatory statements nearly two years prior to filing the complaints in Nevada.
- 91. Plaintiff Taylor Button was *never charged*, *questioned* or *convicted* of **any crime**, especially not for the allegations stated by Ms. McCawley's clients in 2018, (which

were all allegations from 2008 and 2009), who all filed their false reports at *exactly the* same time and in conjunction with Sage Humphries' permanent restraining order being granted at an ex-parte hearing, on the grounds of fraud.

- 92. Defendant's three clients from Florida fabricated allegations of sexual assault against Plaintiff Taylor Button, pursued bogus criminal and civil actions against him, made false and malicious statements about him, and generated a media blitz based on their lies.
- 93. Ms. McCawley's clients' motives for making their false claims and statements are now clear; they wanted to destroy the Buttons' reputations and careers, garner attention for themselves, and extract millions of dollars from the Buttons while seeking an outrageous **one hundred and thirty million dollars** from them in Nevada. These women were aided in those efforts by their attorney, Defendant Sigrid McCawley.
- 94. Although seven different police departments, including the Department of Justice, the State Attorney's Office in Florida and the District Attorney of Somerville in Massachusetts found the allegations unworthy of criminal charges the damage to Plaintiffs has been extreme and irreparable.
- 95. Ms. McCawley knew that the State Attorney in Florida and the Somerville District Attorney in Massachusetts declined to bring criminal charges but continued to falsely accuse Plaintiffs of verified criminal conduct in the media and in the press.
- 96. In publishing the false and defamatory statements, Defendant Sigrid McCawley knowingly and intentionally misrepresented the truth and manufactured false information out of whole cloth.

- 97. At the time Sigrid McCawley published her false statements, Ms. McCawley had actual knowledge that her statements were false or had reckless disregard for their falsity because she had no objectively reasonable basis for believing her statements were true.
- 98. Ms. McCawley has also unethically made these defamatory statements and accusations in Court including by stating that Plaintiff Taylor Button "declined a polygraph test" and "lawyered up", and that was the sole reason Mr. Button was not arrested or charged; as the Court is aware, a lawyer does not prevent charges leading to an inevitable arrest, though Sigrid McCawley has stated on a number of occasions that it does.
- 99. For the record, Plaintiff Taylor Button *never declined* a polygraph test however, unfortunately for the integrity of the Court through public perception, Ms. McCawley's statements in the litigation are privileged, allowing her to mislead the Court.
- 100. Ms. McCawley was in possession of the cleared reports prior to each complaint and amended complaint being filed yet, continued to harass and defame Plaintiff Taylor Button in the media and in the press.
- 101. Ms. McCawley not only unethically played to the media but she *intentionally* created a false and defamatory narrative which was inconsistent with her clients' complaint to convince the public, including any potential juror that her clients' allegations, (though false), were parallel to the allegations which had recently been her "claim to fame" in the Epstein and Maxwell litigation and her representation of Virginia Giuffre.
- 102. Ms. McCawley *knew* her false and defamatory narrative provided a questionable foundation for the complaints filed but that it would sensationalize and amplify any headline to follow thus fortifying that frivolous foundation.

- 103. As Ms. McCawley drafted her clients' complaint, she *knowingly* made these defamatory statements to intentionally mislead the public through the press and the media by falsely stating that Plaintiffs, together, abused seven of their students as dance teachers, which is not in any way, shape or form what the complaint states, though the complaint itself, is fraudulent.
- 104. Defendants' statements were made out of actual malice, in an effort to ruin Plaintiffs' livelihood, career, reputations and overall ability to defend themselves against these false and defamatory allegations in the media prior to the onset of her clients' complaint being filed.
- 105. On May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Sage Humphries and Sigrid McCawley requested and executed a globally aired interview on Good Morning America further defaming Plaintiffs<sup>16</sup>.
- 106. In July of 2022, Plaintiffs Dusty and Taylor Button filed a Motion to Dismiss the Second Amended Complaint and Counterclaim in Nevada, adding a third-party complaint against Sage Humphries' parents and three men whom Sage Humphries had illegal and inappropriate sexual relationships with, Daryl Katz<sup>17</sup> (billionaire and owner of the NHL team The Edmonton Oilers), Anthony Giovanni Deane (Sage Humphries' ex-boyfriend whom was more than two decades her senior) and Chase Finlay, (whom Sage dated whilst he was engaged to another woman, thus destroying their engagement and their relationship in its entirety).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rdUCjhVK2Qo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rdUCjhVK2Qo</a> – Good Morning America interview with Sage Humphries and Sigrid McCawley

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> https://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/oilers-owner-daryl-katz-and-ballet-dancer-both-deny-allegations-they-had-sexual-relationship - Edmonton Journal Article regarding Sage Humphries and Daryl Katz' relationship.

107. In July of 2022, Ms. McCawley specifically arranged an interview with Gretchen Voss of Boston Magazine for her clients, Sage Humphries and Jane Doe 1.

- 108. On the day Plaintiff Taylor and Dusty Button's counterclaim was filed, Sage
  Humphries was mid-interview with Gretchen Voss, whereas everything Sage had ever
  said was disproven by Plaintiffs' counterclaim and exhibits and which Sage
  Humphries and her counsel had withheld in order to maintain the false narrative which
  was created by Defendant, Sigrid McCawley.
- 109. As previously stated, during Sage Humphries' interview with Gretchen Voss, she abruptly ended her interview before it was completed.
- 110. Ms. McCawley had actual knowledge of Ms. Humphries' sexual relationships with Anthony Giovanni Deane, Chase Finlay and Daryl Katz.
- 111. Sage Humphries' and Jane Doe 1's Boston Magazine interview<sup>18</sup> further proves that Sigrid McCawley knew that her clients' statements were defamatory but made them anyway.
- 112. Plaintiffs spoke to Gretchen Voss in January of 2024 whereas, Ms. Voss stated that Jane Doe 1's interview was "so bad" that Ms. McCawley called Gretchen Voss to apologize for her clients' interview and Ms. Voss stated it was "the worst interview she had ever done" due to the fact that Jane Doe 1 could not construct an intelligible storyline that would have been believable *even if* she had ever met Plaintiffs' Taylor and Dusty Button before, which she has not.
- 113. This interview was slanderous and defamatory as Plaintiffs have never met

  Jane Doe 1 and therefore nothing that she could say would fall in any realm of truth.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> <a href="https://www.bostonmagazine.com/news/2022/08/02/ballet-scandal-boston/">https://www.bostonmagazine.com/news/2022/08/02/ballet-scandal-boston/</a> - Boston Magazine Article about Sage Humphries and Plaintiffs Dusty and Taylor Button, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022.

- 114. In August of 2022, after being physically and financially (legally) threatened by Daryl Katz and his hired convicted felon "fixer", Anthony Pellicano<sup>19</sup>, against Plaintiffs' demands, Plaintiffs' attorney withdrew Daryl Katz (with a tolling agreement) and the other two men from the third-party complaint leaving only Sage Humphries' parents.
- 115. In October of 2022, Plaintiffs lost their counsel due to the inability to continue funding their representation having already sold all of their assets to fund that representation up to that point.
- 116. Since October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Plaintiffs have been *pro se* against Sigrid McCawley, associates of Boies Schiller Flexner and their six clients, one of whom Plaintiffs have never met or heard of, (Jane Doe 1), but all of who have admitted under oath that they were recruited by Humphries and/or her counsel and that their claims have no basis or grounds.
- 117. On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, the Nevada District Court held an Oral Argument on several pending motions including Plaintiffs' Counterclaim against Sage Humphries, which included supplemental exhibits including text messages between Sage Humphries and her mother regarding her mother's disapproval of her daughter's consensual dating relationship with Taylor and Dusty Button in 2017 and a July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 false police incident report filed by Sage Humphries' mother, countering Sage Humphries' allegations, in addition to the defamation claims against her for her Good Morning America interview on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

<sup>19</sup> https://variety.com/2022/film/news/anthony-pellicano-daryl-katz-marc-randazza-1235349929/; https://thenevadaindependent.com/article/pellicanos-presence-adds-a-new-twist-in-ballerina-sex-exploitation-litigation; https://www.casino.org/news/mgm-wiretap-p-i-hired-to-disappear-billionaire-ballerina-sex-lawsuit/; articles regarding Daryl Katz hiring Anthony Pellicano to silence Plaintiffs Dusty and Taylor Button.

against her whereas, the Court DENIED her motion to dismiss the counterclaim of defamation per se, further proving Ms. Humphries allegations to be fraudulent and that not only was Sigrid McCawley unethical by creating a narrative to cover up her clients' relationship with Plaintiffs but that Sigrid McCawley's unethical play to the media included a false, defamatory and malicious narrative created for the sole purpose to mislead the public and that her statements were knowingly and intentionally false and defamatory against Plaintiffs<sup>20</sup>.

Amended Complaint was only denied in full as Sigrid McCawley and her associates intentionally failed to provide the birthdays for each of her clients within the complaint, making it impossible for Dusty and Taylor Button, who were newly *pro se*, to discover the statute of limitations (though the allegations are false), for each litigant especially for Jane Doe 1, a woman they had never spoken to, met or heard of; Plaintiffs unfortunately lost their counsel on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 due to financial inability to continue paying for an attorney particularly due to the wasted time and resources of a woman they have never met being represented in the Amended Complaint, (Jane Doe 1), a Second Amended Complaint being filed and argument surrounding a camera roll that Sage Humphries uploaded on Dusty and Taylor Button's hard drive in 2017 which Sigrid McCawley stated was stolen by Plaintiffs from Sage Humphries, who has finally admitted via deposition that it was not stolen

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> On February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Honorable Judge Traum entered an Order denying Sage Humphries' motion to dismiss Dusty and Taylor Button's defamation claim against her whereas the Court stated: "Based on the details herein and in lights of the record as a whole, the Court denies Sage Humphries' Motion to Dismiss the counterclaim of defamation per se."

after years of motion practice in two states proving it was never stolen, ultimately becoming the forefront of a litigation that was filed based on rape and grooming and the culmination of events resulting in the loss of counsel for Dusty and Taylor Button<sup>21</sup>.

- 120. On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, Plaintiffs filed a motion to vacate Sage Humphries' abuse prevention order which was granted in 2017, (which is currently pending appeal on the grounds of fraud on the Court), in Boston, MA.
- 121. Plaintiffs' discovered evidence of fraud in the Nevada litigation proving Sage
  Humphries' fraud on the Court in 2017 and 2018 including false police reports and
  lying to law enforcement, which Plaintiffs were not aware of until the discovery of the
  Nevada litigation began but which she used to secure her abuse prevention order in
  2017 and 2018.
- On June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Plaintiffs filed to appeal the decision to vacate Sage

  Humphries' restraining order on the grounds of fraud on the Court in light of new evidence.
- 123. Plaintiffs' appeal is currently pending in the Massachusetts Appellate Court<sup>22</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> At the February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 hearing, Hon. Judge Traum also stated it was premature to dismiss the complaint and that she would be looking into the statutes for each state regarding each individual; additionally understanding Dusty and Taylor Button's frustration with the damning evidence against Sage Humphries and her parents but explaining she did not have jurisdiction over Micah and Michael Humphries who are residents of California. However, Dusty and Taylor Button have now filed a new Motion to Dismiss and Counterclaim which is pending.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Docket number: 2023-P-1202 - Button v. Humphries

- On February 24th, 2023, Juliet Doherty, (one of Sigrid McCawley's clients), voluntarily withdrew herself from the Nevada litigation.
- In June of 2023, Plaintiffs filed a Rule 11 Motion for Sanctions against Jane Doe 1 and Sigrid McCawley as they have never met Jane Doe 1 whereas, Plaintiffs proved that her allegations were not only impossible but that Sigrid McCawley had indeed, violated Rule 11 and had not performed a reasonably diligent inquiry into her
- Jane Doe 1's complaint was "amended", forcing a third amended complaint.
- This action resulted in Plaintiffs filing a new motion to dismiss the complaint and filing a new counterclaim against all parties which is still pending.
- Plaintiffs have deposed all parties involved whereas, their depositions further prove Sigrid McCawley intentionally and knowingly defamed and inflicted harm upon Plaintiffs while simultaneously recruiting her clients who otherwise had no intention
- Plaintiffs have been in litigation with Ms. McCawley pending three years in which, Ms. McCawley continues to intentionally defame and harass Plaintiffs through litigation, the media and the press with no consequence thus far, for her egregious

# The Nevada Litigants and Proof that Ms. McCawley Knew Her Statements were False and Defamatory

In 2012, Plaintiffs moved to Massachusetts as Dusty Button became a

- 131. In 2014, Dusty was promoted to Boston Ballet's highest position in the company as Principal ballerina.
- 132. In 2016, Sage Humphries, who was also a member of the Boston Ballet, introduced herself to Dusty Button at the Boston Ballet whereas, they became good friends.
- 133. In 2017, Sage Humphries, (nearly twenty years old), infiltrated Plaintiffs' marriage, initiating a physical and sexual relationship with both Plaintiffs, ultimately forming an open dating relationship for about four months from May until July of 2017, thus making Plaintiffs one of dozens of unconventional relationships that Sage Humphries created in her pursuit of freeing herself from the confines of an overcontrolling family.
- 134. Plaintiffs have never had interest, been involved in or interested in an open relationship prior to allowing Sage Humphries to infiltrate their marriage and would never again do so.
- 135. In April, 2017, Plaintiffs were invited to Ms. Humphries' parents' home in California for Easter and to celebrate Plaintiff Taylor Button's birthday which is April 16th.
- 136. On April 16th, 2017, Sage Humphries asked Plaintiffs if they wanted to sleep at her father's "law office" which doubled as a "beach house" in Seal Beach, CA The Law Office of Michael Humphries.
- 137. On April 16th, 2017, Sage Humphries stated she had a "surprise" for Taylor's birthday, whereas, she initiated a three-way sexual and emotional relationship that

evening as a proverbial birthday gift for Plaintiffs Taylor Button and Dusty Button, thus blurring the lines between friendship and relationship.

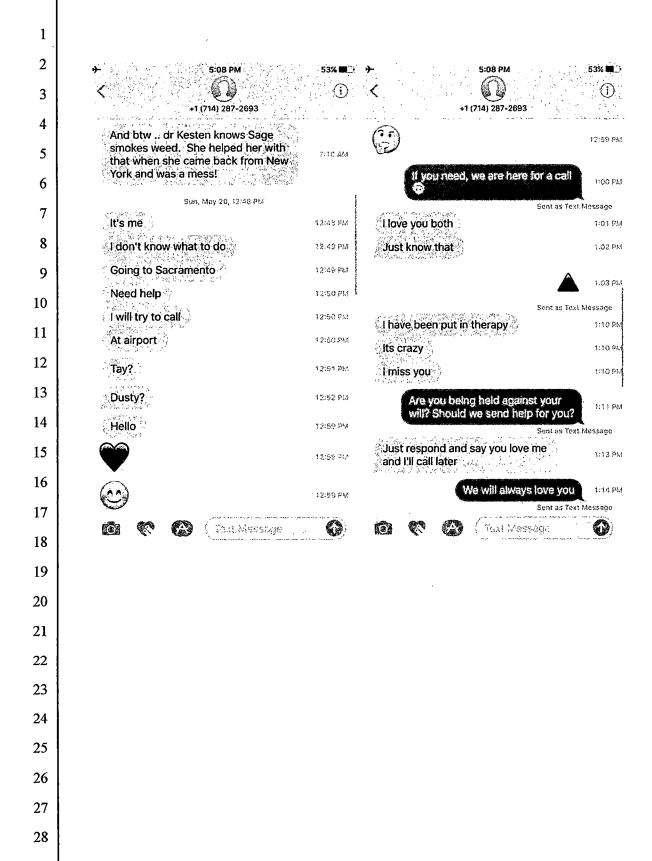
- 138. On the morning of April 17th, 2017, Sage's father walked in on the three, nude together in bed, and while making unbroken eye contact simply reminded Sage

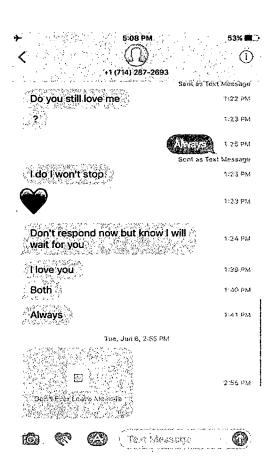
  Humphries of her dentist appointment that morning and left, later directing Plaintiffs where the best coffee place in town was and carried on for the rest of the trip as if nothing happened.
- Humphries and Plaintiffs continued their relationship, ultimately labeling each other as "boyfriend" and "girlfriend" and spending most of their time together in a relationship as Sage Humphries asked Plaintiffs if she could stay at their apartment the majority of the time.
- 140. Ms. Humphries' parents never addressed walking in on the three.
- 141. Following the April trip to California, Micah Humphries initiated a "group text" with her daughter and Plaintiffs which was regularly used.
- 142. In May of 2017, Ms. Humphries' parents again, invited Taylor Button to their home on two occasions while he was there for work, in which he obliged.
- 143. At the end of April, 2017, Ms. Humphries' parents, (Micah and Michael Humphries), made it clear that they knew she was in a dating relationship with both Plaintiffs whereas, at first, Ms. Humphries' parents accepted the relationship, asking if she could move in with Plaintiffs stating they knew Sage's desire was to move in with them and wanted to make sure it was okay with Plaintiffs.

- Sage Humphries: "Nobody is controlling my life. You are the only person trying to do so"
- 147. Following this argument between Sage and her mother, it was then made clear (in a turn of events), that her parents suddenly did not approve of her decision to be in an open dating relationship with Plaintiffs.
- 148. On May 17th, 2017, Micah Humphries texted her daughter, warning her that if she did not end the relationship with Plaintiffs, she would fly to Boston from California with her husband and forcibly remove Sage.
- 149. Sage Humphries ignored her mother's message regarding coming to get her things and instead, continued her relationship with Plaintiffs as she expressed that was her desire.
- 150. On May 22nd, 2017, to Plaintiffs' shock, Plaintiff Dusty Button's contract with the Boston Ballet was abruptly terminated for "just cause", with no explanation as to why she was terminated, banning Dusty and Taylor from the Boston Ballet building as well as the Boston Opera House where the performances were held and in fact, would not allow Dusty to collect her belongings from Boston Ballet.
- 151. Dusty Button has never received a reason or cause for her termination from Boston Ballet nor was one named in the official documentation however, Plaintiffs now know, Micah and Michael Humphries conspired with Boston Ballet to prematurely terminate Dusty Button's very financially lucrative and prestigious contract.

- On May 24th, 2017, Sage Humphries' parents sent her a text that they were in Massachusetts, ordering her to attend dinner and falsifying that Ms. Humphries' grandfather was "dying". He was not.
- 153. On May 25th, 2017, Sage Humphries, (who was an adult), went to dinner with Plaintiffs prior to her performance with Boston Ballet.
- 154. Upon Sage Humphries arrival to the Boston Opera House, she was escorted out of the Opera House by Boston Ballet staff and forcibly removed by her own parents who were waiting at the Opera House.
- 155. Sage Humphries called Plaintiffs screaming for help as she was forced by her parents into a taxi, through the airport and onto a plane, taken back to California to the Humphries' home to be "converted".
- 156. Micah and Michael Humphries (admittedly) stripped their daughter of her drivers' license, cell phone and keys to prevent her from leaving their home or contacting Plaintiffs or any other third party for help as they forced her into therapy that they funded with her own money that they stole from her bank account without permission.
- 157. On May 27th, 2017, Sage Humphries' parents sent a text message to Plaintiffs threatening them with restraining orders.

1 5:09 PM 2 1 (562) 756-2693 3 Mon. May 29, 4:54 AM 4 **Dusty and Taylor** 5 I have asked you to leave Sage and our family alone, Yet you contact 6 her friends and stalk our home. Restraining orders are being filed. 7 8 If you continue to pursue my daughter we will go public to the 9 media to expose your predatory behavior to ensure there are no 10 other victims, and we will prosecute you to the full extent of the law 11 We also have evidence of the hacking of her phone aisa am 12 She knows about ALL of your 13 previous relationships, as well as dusty's firing from the Birmingham 14 ballet She no longer wishes to associate 15 with either of you. We will notify you when I will come 16 to retrieve my personal belongings from your house that were in Sages 17 use (computer, piano, clothes ) and I will be escorted by the Boston 18 police. 19 Mike Humphries 20 21 22 Simultaneously, and unbeknownst to Ms. Humphries' parents, she was using 158. 23 24 their phones to message Plaintiffs, which she pursued on her own, begging Plaintiffs 25 for help to, "come save her", "come get her" and "need help", as seen below: 26 These messages were sent from her mother's phone to Plaintiffs 27 28





- 159. On May 28th, 2017, Sage Humphries' father filed two false police reports, one in California and one in Massachusetts.
- 160. Sage Humphries tried to escape his home in California whereas he called the police for a family disturbance.
- 161. Michael Humphries told the police his daughter's ex-boyfriend, (Plaintiff Taylor Button), boarded a flight, was coming to kidnap her and take her back to Boston, that Plaintiffs were going to harm Sage and her family. Sage Humphries told the police that there was no validity to her fathers' statements to the police and she felt safe, as seen below:

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- 163. Ms. Humphries hid her relationship and contact with Plaintiffs from her parents.
- In July of 2017, Ms. Humphries' parents gave her an ultimatum; to either end her dating relationship with Plaintiffs or she would lose everything she ever loved, including that they would not pay for her ticket to go back to Massachusetts to rejoin the Boston Ballet in August of 2017.
- 165. On July 10th, 2017, Ms. Humphries warned Plaintiffs of her parents' ultimatum whereas, she additionally warned Plaintiffs that she would leave a fake breakup voicemail on their phones in order to make her parents believe she ended the relationship, allowing her to **go back to** Boston but insisted she wanted to continue the relationship when back in Boston; she just needed to "make her parents think she was ending it".
- On July 14th, 2017, Ms. Humphries contacted Plaintiffs and stated her parents were forcing her to see a lawyer, that she got really upset and left and stating to Plaintiffs that her parents were forcing her to sign restraining orders against Plaintiffs or they would not give her back her freedom.
- 167. Sage Humphries did not fill out the restraining order application form, her parents did, forcing Sage Humphries to sign what they had written.
- 168. This forgery has since been admitted by Sage Humphries per her deposition in September of 2023.
- 169. On July 18th, 2017, Ms. Humphries succumbed to her parents' pressure when her parents admittedly messaged Plaintiffs from her account thus ending her relationship with Plaintiffs.

- 170. On July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017, Sage Humphries' filed a false police report with the

  Orange County Police Department contradicting her prior statements to the police in

  May in order to have a record that she filed a report in preparation for her restraining order hearing.
- 171. The police noted they had previously been called to her parents' home on numerous occasions for the same matter; every report was unfounded as shown below:

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- 180. Sigrid McCawley's defamatory global media campaign against Plaintiffs, was a published, misdirected and sinister favor to her client, Sage Humphries.
- 181. Sage Humphries' father is an attorney, who abused his power by falsifying documents and forcing his daughter to sign them by way of threat and intimidation.
- 182. Sage Humphries' father used his connections to ensure his daughter's restraining order was granted as the Judge refused to look at or accept any evidence against Sage Humphries or her parents provided by Plaintiffs that day when they requested their thousands of files be filed as exhibits.
- 183. In 2018, on June 11th, Sage Humphries filed another false police report in Massachusetts against Plaintiffs, falsely stating Plaintiffs were selling illegal firearms in California.
- 184. This report was unfounded by police as the allegations were false.
- 185. On August 14th, 2018, the night before Ms. Humphries' restraining order renewal hearing, Sage Humphries filed another false police report in Massachusetts claiming Plaintiffs were using a third-party to stalk her.
- 186. This report was unfounded by police as the allegations were false.
- 187. On August 15th, 2018, the Court held an ex-parte hearing whereas, Plaintiffs were not aware of the hearing, nor were they present and Ms. Humphries was granted a permanent restraining order against Plaintiffs.
- 188. Sage Humphries used the false statements she reported to police in Court but neglected to bring the actual reports which showed her allegations were all false and unfounded, which Plaintiffs were never aware of until 2022.

- 189. Ms. McCawley intentionally lied to the media, the press and the public regarding Sage Humphries stating: "she had tried to pursue her perpetrators" and [Sage] "tried to get into discussions with detectives and none of that had really come to fruition".
- 190. As seen, *supra*, Sage Humphries **did** pursue Plaintiffs and in fact, law enforcement was diligent in hearing her allegations on every occasion however, what Ms. McCawley *intentionally excluded* was that, on multiple occasions, due to Sage Humphries' false allegations and inconsistencies in her story, at least on seven different occasions, law enforcement found her statements to be unfounded and inconsistent with the evidence of her consensual dating relationship with Plaintiffs.
- 191. Given Defendant's actual knowledge of the relationship between Sage

  Humphries and Plaintiffs, her repeated statements that Plaintiffs were perpetrators,
  criminals, mentors to Sage and predators, are knowingly and entirely defamatory
  statements made with actual malice, which destroyed Plaintiffs' business and any
  chance of recovering from the damage which was immediately done to their careers
  and reputations.
- 192. The importance of Defendant's role in this destruction was to eliminate Plaintiffs' ability to work, thus assuring that they would be incapable of funding a defense against her client's frivolous and malicious lawsuit filed against Plaintiffs with the singular purpose of forcing Plaintiffs to destroy evidence that federally incriminates Sage Humphries and one of the wealthiest and most prominent men in the country, Daryl Katz, (owner of the Edmonton Oilers NHL team), for illegal prostitution,

- 193. Ms. McCawley had actual knowledge of Sage Humphries' consensual dating relationship with Plaintiffs and in fact, had the restraining order in her possession from 2017 prior to filing her clients' complaint whereas, the restraining order states that Sage Humphries was never forced, threatened or under duress at any time during her dating relationship with Plaintiffs, including during intimate or sexual relations.
- 194. Ms. McCawley intentionally chose to write a frivolous complaint, and embellish on those frivolous and fraudulent statements within the complaint, to the media, misleading the media to believe that Sage Humphries was "mentored" by Plaintiffs, abused and raped.
- 195. The evidence of Humphries' and Katz behavior, that the Boston Municipal Court has ruled was the rightful property of Plaintiffs has been the key focus of Ms. Humphries' fraudulent lawsuit, as all parties involved in the Nevada litigation, (aside from Dusty and Taylor Button) have fought, perjured themselves and manipulated the Court in the hopes of forcing the Court to order the destruction of this evidence that will eventually lead to criminal charges against the parties it is relative to.
- 196. Mr. Katz, a third-party Defendant in the litigation named above, has abused his wealth and power by hiring a convicted felon to threaten the lives of Plaintiffs while ordering their silence and like Katz, the corruption and illegal activity of his hired "gun" Anthony Pellicano runs deep and that activity has placed them both in various Courts and various headlines over the decades.

- 197. While the reasons behind Sigrid McCawley's defamation remain entirely irrelevant, considering that her public shaming and abuse are now and always have been false and malicious in their entirety, the depths of the illegal and corrupt connections may illuminate the arrogance required to perform these acts, arrogance that stems from law school and the misguided feelings of immunity that come from attacking innocent people, at the pinnacle of their careers, while knowing they would be financially ruined and incapable of defending against the defamation of a powerful and renowned attorney, backed by one of the most powerful firms in the country.
- 198. Illegal prostitution, abuse of power, sex trafficking and egotistical eagerness to promote her litigation... Sigrid McCawley maliciously and aggressively defamed Plaintiffs and destroyed any glimmer of a future they could hope for and did so with zero remorse and a proverbial middle finger to anyone who questioned her authority in the matter.
- 199. Sigrid McCawley was in possession of the evidence proving the aforementioned statements to be true *over a year* prior to filing Sage Humphries' complaint including "hundreds of hours" of interviews conducted to diligently investigate her clients' claims.
- 200. Ms. McCawley intentionally filed Sage Humphries' complaint with frivolous and fraudulent allegations which, in turn, provided the fuel to the fire of Ms.
  McCawley's false and defamatory statements to the media, the press and the public including any potential juror.
  - B. Gina Menichino, Danielle Gutierrez and Jane Doe 2

- The allegations brought forth by Ms. Gutierrez accuse Mr. Button of further exaggerated abuse including outrageous allegations of threat with a knife, squeezing her until her nose bled, dragging her across the floor by her hair amongst other outlandish and false allegations.
- 208. Ms. McCawley was in possession of these documents proving her clients' allegations to be false prior to filing Ms. Gutierrez's complaint.
- 209. Though the above referenced message is untrue in and of itself, Ms. McCawley had actual knowledge of Danielle Gutierrez's statements in this particular text message, her statement to the police, her therapy records and through various messages prior to filing Ms. Gutierrez's complaint, all of which contradict the frivolous complaint filed which states numerous instances of violence and abuse, which never occurred and which are corroborated by the evidence against Ms. Gutierrez.
- This is just one of many examples that Sigrid McCawley had actual knowledge of her clients' frivolous complaints but which she continued to disregard and instead, launched a global defamatory media campaign against Plaintiffs.

## C. Jane Doe 1

- 211. Plaintiffs Taylor and Dusty Button have never met or heard of Jane Doe 1, have provided proof that her allegations are literally *impossible* and filed Rule 11 Sanctions against Ms. McCawley and Jane Doe 1 for filing a frivolous complaint.
- 212. Ms. McCawley has severely defamed Plaintiffs with the allegations brought forth by Jane Doe 1 in the complaint however, Ms. McCawley has gone further by

defaming Plaintiffs through the media, the press and the public by way of making false and defamatory statements regarding Jane Doe 1 such as:

"Dusty and Taylor said they would make her a star".

"Dusty and Taylor took her back to their apartment, plied her with alcohol and raped her".

"McCawley said Jane Doe 100 met the Buttons in 2014, when she was a minor. She said they plied her with alcohol, took her to their apartment and raped her"—AP News - <a href="https://apnews.com/article/entertainment-boston-lawsuits-ballet-dance-4686848a1adf01ff05a48dbc09685f02">https://apnews.com/article/entertainment-boston-lawsuits-ballet-dance-4686848a1adf01ff05a48dbc09685f02</a> - Sept. 29th, 2021.

- 213. Plaintiffs have never met or heard of Jane Doe 1 however, the defamatory statements made in the media were not even consistent with Jane Doe 1's allegations including because Ms. McCawley stated "she was a minor", while Jane Doe 1 cannot name a day, month, time, location, season or year which her allegations took place but states she "believes" it took place in 2014.
- Jane Doe 1's allegations consist of statements including that she alleges Taylor and Dusty Button raped her at gun point and had an "arsenal" of guns hanging on the wall.
- 215. Jane Doe 1 plagiarized Ms. Humphries' affidavit from 2017 whereas, Ms.
  Humphries' stated Plaintiffs had an "arsenal of guns" however, Plaintiffs disproved these allegations in 2017 with receipts and photos proving they never had any "arsenal of guns" hanging on the wall.
- 216. Ms. McCawley was in possession of the receipts from 2017 as well as Sage Humphries' affidavit and therefore, the third-party defamatory statements were a

direct result of Sigrid McCawley's unethical false and frivolous filing, including the amended complaint following the Safe Harbor Provision which was issued to Ms.

McCawley by Plaintiffs proving Jane Doe 1's allegations are impossible.

- 217. In January of 2022, Ms. McCawley and Jane Doe 1 attempted to file charges against Plaintiffs with Homeland Security and the Department of Justice.
- 218. Upon learning of this investigation against Plaintiffs due to Sigrid McCawley's slanderous statements about Plaintiffs to Homeland Security, Plaintiffs emailed the department and any and all law enforcement agencies associated with the locations Jane Doe 1 stated she lived in, in search for Jane Doe 1's allegations or reports filed with law enforcement.
- 219. Plaintiffs discovered that Jane Doe 1 has never filed a report with any law enforcement but instead Sigrid McCawley conspired with her client in an attempt to falsely accuse Plaintiffs and have them prosecuted, who have never met or heard of Jane Doe 1, for allegations that never occurred.
- 220. Plaintiffs made contact with the Police Department who informed them that Special Agent Evan Picariello from Homeland Security stated, "although the criminal investigation did not result in charges, there is an ongoing civil litigation, and it appears that the Buttons are seeking any information pertaining to the Plaintiffs in an effort to clear their names." And; "No crime occurred in
- 221. Ms. McCawley had actual knowledge that her client was lying and is still lying but continues to make slanderous statements to the media, the press and even law enforcement regarding Jane Doe 1's allegations against Plaintiffs.

- 222. Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements to law enforcement are not privileged and therefore constitute slander, libel and defamation against Plaintiffs.
- 223. As a direct and proximate result of Sigrid McCawley's unethical play to the media and eagerness to convince the media and the press, on a global scale, that her clients' allegations were out of Epstein and Maxwell's "playbook", Plaintiffs suffered tremendous and catastrophic loss which will never be recovered.

Sigrid McCawley's Defamatory Statements made in the Media and the Press

- A. Sigrid McCawley's False and Defamatory Statement to The New York Times on July, 26th 2021.
  - "This is a pair of perpetrators who are highly sophisticated, highly manipulative, and are continuing, which is exactly what my clients were concerned about," Sigrid McCawley said.
- Ms. McCawley intentionally used false and defamatory statements to mislead the public, the media and the press, including any potential juror by stating Plaintiffs were "perpetrators who are highly sophisticated, highly manipulative" and "continuing".
- 225. Plaintiffs have never committed a crime or been convicted of a crime.
- 226. In fact, Ms. McCawley's clients previously filed false allegations with law enforcement resulting in false police reports filed in 2017 and 2018 in which all reports were either unfounded, declined, not pursued and/or cleared by exception based on those fraudulent allegations against Plaintiffs.

- 227. Sigrid McCawley was in possession of the reports which showed her clients' allegations were false, unfounded and cleared on every occasion prior to making her false and defamatory statements.
- 228. The New York Times article is not subject to the single publication rule as it was reposted to at least three different audiences including by being published on the New York Times' website, the newspaper and their social media accounts including but not limited to Instagram.
- B. Sigrid McCawley's Defamatory Statements to The Boston Globe on September 29th, 2021.
  - "What you have here is the highest level of betrayal".
  - "You see the use of a famous female ballerina to coax these victims into a situation where they become prey for this serial abuser."
  - "In an instance like this, where you have a serial abuser, you often times see other women feeling empowered enough to come forward and say, 'me, too."
  - "Each one of these ballerinas wants this abuse to stop".
- 229. The Defendant's statements are not privileged.
- 230. Ms. McCawley used false and defamatory statements to mislead the public in the media and the press by stating Plaintiff Dusty Button "coaxed victims into a situation where they become prey for this serial abuse".
- 231. Ms. McCawley again, refers to Plaintiff Mitchell Taylor Button as a "serial abuser" on at least two occasions whereas, this statement is proven to be false.

- 232. Ms. McCawley refers to her clients in the second amended complaint as "each one of these ballerinas", yet, the only ballerina is Sage Humphries; this is relevant as it differentiates the career paths whereas, Plaintiffs did not mentor and teach these women together as dance teachers, which is precisely what Ms. McCawley so eagerly and falsely promoted as a headline.
- 233. Plaintiffs never abused anyone.
- 234. Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements directly resulted in false titles and allegations such as:
  - "Star ballerina accused of helping husband abuse underage girls" –
     Independent / Yahoo!news
  - "In the original lawsuit, two professional dancers allege that Mr. Button, assisted by his wife, assaulted young dancers he was instructing." The Daily Mail
  - "A star ballerina accused of helping her husband sexually abuse two underage girls is now facing similar claims from three other women" – The Daily Mail
  - "In the original suit, filed in US District Court in Nevada, Mitchell was the
    only person named as a defendant, with dusty mentioned as an alleged
    predator. Since then, three more alleged victims have come forward and
    joined the expanded lawsuit filed last week. All three of those women have
    named Dusty as a defendant." The Daily Mail
  - "5 dancers allege sex abuse by Las Vegas instructor and his ballerina wife" – Las Vegas Review Journal

- 238. Plaintiffs never perpetrated criminal behavior against any person, and especially not against young girls.
- 239. Plaintiffs have never committed or been convicted of a crime and in fact, were cleared of any and all false allegations associated with false police reports filed by clients of Sigrid McCawley, whereas she was in possession of those reports which were either unfounded, declined, not pursued or cleared by exception.
- D. Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements to The Daily Star on September 30<sup>th</sup>,
   2021
  - "Dusty and Mitchell promised to make her [Jane Doe 1] a star before abusing their power", Ms. McCawley said.
- 240. Ms. McCawley's statements are not privileged.
- 241. Ms. McCawley made false and defamatory statements to the media, the press and the public by stating "Dusty and Mitchell promised to make her a star before abusing their power".
- 242. Ms. McCawley referred to her client Jane Doe 1, who Plaintiffs have never met.
- 243. Plaintiffs have already filed Rule 11 sanctions against Ms. McCawley and her client Jane Doe 1.
- 244. Ms. McCawley does not quote the complaint and instead makes a false and defamatory statement to the public, the press and the media which is untrue and harassing towards Plaintiffs.

- 245. Ms. McCawley knew that her statements were false and defamatory, intentionally inflicting harm on Plaintiffs by way of her defamatory and false statements.
- E. Sigrid McCawley's Defamatory Statement to Law.com on August 5th, 2021 
  https://www.law.com/dailybusinessreview/2021/08/05/a-jeffrey-epstein-documentaryled-boies-schillers-sigrid-mccawley-to-boston-ballet-sex-assaultsuit/?slreturn=20240327174207
  - "That quote and that commitment rang true with her, because she had tried to pursue her perpetrators, she had a restraining order against them and tried to get into discussions with detectives and none of that had really come to fruition," McCawley said. "She had sort of put it behind her and moved on, but just couldn't. So when she saw that episode, she said that that was really a turning point for her and she picked up the phone and she called me."
- 246. Ms. McCawley's statements are not privileged.
- 247. Ms. McCawley used false and defamatory statements to mislead the public in the media and the press by stating her client, "tried to pursue her perpetrators" and "tried to get into discussions with detectives and none of that had really come to fruition", whereas, Sage Humphries, in fact died "pursue" Plaintiffs Dusty and Taylor Button, (her ex-boyfriend and girlfriend) and as admitted by Sigrid McCawley herself, obtained abuse prevention orders against them in 2017.
- 248. Sage Humphries did in fact make contact and reported her false allegations, by filing false police reports with multiple law enforcement agencies including

"detectives" from Somerville Police Department, Melrose Police Department, Orange County Sherriff's Department, Boston Police Department and the District Attorney's Office in Somerville, MA.

- 249. Plaintiffs have spoken to and subpoenaed every agency listed above whereas, the reports prove that Ms. Humphries in fact did communicate with all of the above-mentioned agencies and that due to her inconsistencies in her testimony and the proof against her allegations, including evidence of a consensual dating relationship with Plaintiffs, her reports were unfounded.
- 250. The Somerville District Attorney's Office declined to move forward in pressing any charges following Sage Humphries' false allegations even after she obtained a permanent abuse prevention order, (due to fraud on the Court), in 2018.
- 251. Ms. McCawley knew that her client "pursued" Plaintiffs, as she admits in the above referenced quote and in addition, had actual knowledge of the reports and declination of charges against Plaintiffs.
- 252. Instead of Ms. McCawley truthfully stating Ms. Humphries had a consensual dating relationship with Plaintiffs, she twisted the narrative and portrayed Plaintiffs as two "dance instructors" who "mentored" her client and committed criminal acts against her.
- 253. Ms. McCawley knew that her statements were defamatory and made them anyway.
- 254. Ms. Humphries false allegations were proven unfounded on numerous occasions and Plaintiffs were cleared of any wrong doing on every occasion.

- 255. Ms. McCawley's client's "discussions with detectives" came to "fruition" and therefore, Ms. McCawley lied to press and the media by way of speaking false and defamatory statements which were not privileged and in fact, were intentionally misleading, intentionally inflicting harm upon Plaintiffs.
- 256. Ms. McCawley declared in litigation that she diligently investigated her clients' allegations beginning over a year and a half prior to filing her complaint whereas, she was in possession of the reports filed by her client proving her allegations to be false, fraudulent and unfounded and additionally was in possession of prove of her clients' "discussions with detectives' which came to "fruition".
- 257. Ms. McCawley has stated on a number of occasions that she spent hundreds of hours in interviews and researching her clients' allegations therefore, proving she knew her statements were defamatory and false but chose to make them anyway, withholding the truth from the media, public and the Court.
  - "Ultimately, the goal of the majority of my clients is really to stop the predators, so it's just: how do we do that?" McCawley said. "It's really a beautiful thing to witness Sage and Gina and their strength in being able to come together and stand up against this perpetrator, who is still out there in the dance community, still has full access to young children. When you bring light to the abuse, people are actually more protected."
- 258. Ms. McCawley again refers to Plaintiff Taylor Button as a "perpetrator" who is "still out there in the dance community", and stating Plaintiff has "still has full access to young children".

- 259. As stated, supra, Plaintiff Taylor Button has not been involved in the dance industry since 2010 and was never well known as a dancer, choreographer or a dance teacher and had absolutely no influence in the dance industry, particularly at the time these defamatory comments were made.
- 260. Ms. McCawley made knowingly false and defamatory statements to the public, the media and the press by misleading them to believe Plaintiffs had again, committed and/or been convicted of a crime and that they were accessing young children in the dance community for abusive purposes.
- 261. Plaintiff Taylor Button is not and was never a perpetrator, as proven by evidence and reports which were in Ms. McCawley's possession prior to and during the time her defamatory statements were made.
- 262. Plaintiffs never knew Sage Humphries as a child; Ms. McCawley's statement regarding "full access to young children" is entirely and utterly defamatory and harassing, intentionally misleading the press, the media and the public including any potential juror that Plaintiffs are "still out there in the dance community", "access" [ing] young children to groom and abuse.
- 263. This statement in and of itself is not only false but so egregious that it led to a global media campaign against Plaintiffs alleging they were abusing children as dance teachers, which was precisely the narrative Ms. McCawley instigated.
  - "That's really the saddest part of this work for me," McCawley said. "I think we give them back some of themselves by bringing these actions, but we'll never get back the little girl who was 13 in that dance studio, and that's really heartbreaking."

- Ms. McCawley used false and defamatory statements to mislead the public, the media and the press by stating "we'll never get back the little girl who was 13 in that dance studio", again, misleading the public, the media and the press to believe Plaintiffs were the cause of her clients' inability to recover her innocence due to criminal behavior committed by Plaintiffs, which is false in its entirety.
  - "You have a dance teacher who is going to be physically close to the student just by the nature of the work that they're doing, and a student who wants to impress their teacher and be the best that they can be for that instructor," McCawley said.
- 265. Ms. McCawley's statements are not privileged.
- 266. Ms. McCawley's statement and portrayal of Plaintiffs' "closeness" to any "student" were false, defamatory and misleading to the public, the media and press as Plaintiff Mitchell Taylor Button was not a dance teacher at the time of the article being published and was not involved in the dance industry for over a decade prior to Ms. McCawley's false and defamatory statements being made.
  - "McCawley said the litigation is likely to expand, as she's fielding calls from other women alleging they were victimized by the same perpetrators."
- 267. Ms. McCawley's statements are not privileged.
- 268. Ms. McCawley intentionally stated she was "fielding calls from other women alleging they were victimized by the same perpetrators" in an effort to intentionally inflict harm on Plaintiffs by misleading the public, the press and the media to believe Plaintiffs had committed or been convicted of any crime, had engaged in criminal

behavior and had "victimized" an innumerable amount of people, including "young girls" which she previously mentioned in her aforementioned defamatory statements.

- F. Ms. McCawley's Defamatory Statement to Cosmopolitan Magazine on April 5th, 2022
  - "Perpetrators don't really change their playbook."
- 269. Ms. McCawley's statements are not privileged.
- 270. Ms. McCawley again, refers to Plaintiffs as "perpetrators", misleading the public, the media and the press to believe that Plaintiffs committed any crime and/or they were convicted of a crime.
- 271. Plaintiffs were never convicted of any crime as none have been committed and additionally, Plaintiffs were cleared of any and all *false allegations* reported to law enforcement whereas, multiple reports were "unfounded" and it was discovered that Ms. McCawley's' clients had lied in their reports.
- 272. Ms. McCawley was in possession of these reports prior to making her intentional false and defamatory statements to the public, the media and the press.
- 273. Ms. McCawley's reference to a "playbook" is intentionally in reference to the "black book" which was so famously referenced in the media and the press during her representation of Virginia Giuffre in the Epstein and Maxwell case.
- 274. Ms. McCawley, once again, *knowingly* made this reference and defamatory statement to mislead the media and the press into believing Plaintiffs were the next Epstein and Maxwell, causing further defamation and severe harassment toward Plaintiffs.

- G. Ms. McCawley's Defamatory Statement to Good Morning America on May 27th,

  2022 <a href="https://www.goodmorningamerica.com/news/video/ballerina-speaks-sexual-abuse-allegations-boston-ballet-star-85016424">https://www.goodmorningamerica.com/news/video/ballerina-speaks-sexual-abuse-allegations-boston-ballet-star-85016424</a>
  - "I am incredibly proud to be representing this group of survivors in the dance community as they battle for justice."
- 275. Ms. McCawley's statements are not privileged.
- 276. On May 27th, 2022, Ms. McCawley and Sage Humphries were interviewed by Amy Robach on ABC News program, Good Morning America.
- 277. Ms. McCawley cannot state she is "representing this group of survivors" as they have neither proven they "survived" any allegation stated in their complaints nor did any action take place in which they "survived" such as the "criminal behavior" Ms. McCawley repetitively references against Plaintiffs as no such criminal behavior occurred.
- 278. Ms. McCawley arranged the interview with Good Morning America, Ms.

  Robach and her Sage Humphries as her firms' connections, *prior* connections with the production company and Ms. Robach were closely intertwined, as Ms. Robach initially retained the first list regarding Epstein and additionally interviewed Hunter Biden, who was formerly an employee of Boies Schiller & Flexner with Ms.

  McCawley, allowing Ms. McCawley to ensure her client received her "15 minutes of fame" on the morning show.
- 279. As previously stated, Plaintiffs filed a counterclaim of defamation against Ms. McCawley's client, Sage Humphries, pertaining to her interview with Good Morning America whereas, Ms. McCawley and her client filed to dismiss Plaintiffs'

counterclaim however, Ms. Humphries' motion was DENIED as the judge stated, "Based on the details herein and in light of the record as a whole, the Court denies Sage Humphries' Motion to Dismiss the counterclaim of defamation per se.'

- 280. Sigrid McCawley took part of this same defamatory interview.
- 281. Ms. McCawley abused her power and influence with the media, intentionally arranging her own interview with Amy Robach and her client, Sage Humphries, whereas, her elite connections with the media and her firm's prior connections with Good Morning America were used to gain notoriety and traction thus supplementing the fraudulent case Ms. McCawley manipulated the press to believe was her next Epstein and Maxwell case.
- 282. Ms. McCawley made false and defamatory statements to mislead the public, the press and the media by way of stating she was "representing a group of survivors in the dance community".
- 283. Plaintiffs have never met Ms. McCawley's client, Jane Doe 1.
- 284. Jane Doe 1 is not involved in the dance community.
- 285. Plaintiffs have never abused anyone, have never committed a crime and have never been convicted of a crime.
- 286. Ms. McCawley's clients filed false police reports in 2017 and 2018 whereas, every report was either unfounded, declined, cleared by exception or not pursued due to the false allegations of the report.
- 287. Ms. McCawley's false and defamatory statements were intentional to mislead the public, the media and the press, including any potential juror to believe her

"seven", (now six), clients "survived" abuse committed by Plaintiffs within the dance community.

- 288. Ms. McCawley knew that her statements were false, defamatory and misleading and made them anyway.
- H. Ms. McCawley's Defamatory Statements to The Bleacher Report / NBC News and Yahoo.com on July 21st, 2022
  - "Sage had a business relationship with Mr. Katz and there was never any sexual relationship between them. As is typical of abusers facing serious litigation, with four walls of facts closing in, the Buttons have filed counterclaims that distract from and distort the truth. Abusers often try to weaponize the allegations brought against them, and that's exactly what is happening here," she said. "The counterclaims the Buttons have filed falsely and recklessly implicate others, including Daryl Katz, and are a factually unfounded attempt to portray the women they abused as liars."
- 289. Ms. McCawley's statements regarding Daryl Katz are entirely and knowingly false and defamatory.
- 290. Plaintiffs provided proof of her clients' sexual relationship with Daryl Katz, a man old enough to be her clients' grandfather, who pursued her through abuse of his power and financial position, as he has previously been accused of.
- 291. Ms. McCawley *knew* Mr. Katz had previously been accused of the same predatory behavior, yet Ms. McCawley, as a "victims' advocate" chose to knowingly defame Plaintiffs while protecting Mr. Katz and her client Ms. Humphries' relationship, defending Mr. Katz.

1	292.	In fact, upon Plaintiffs submitting such proof in the Nevada District Court,
2	Sigri	d McCawley immediately motioned to seal Plaintiffs' proof of
3		, the tolling agreement between Plaintiffs and Mr.
4	Katz	and even Plaintiffs' own declarations regarding what Ms. Humphries told them
5	about	t Mr. Katz.
6 7	293.	Ms. McCawley is recognized for "protecting victims" on her public facing side
8		er unethical behavior aggressively sealing evidence from the public that proves
9		lient was actually a victim of Mr. Katz illegal and disgusting preying on a girl
10		g enough to be his granddaughter in order to protect his public image is the other
11		of that corrupt coin
12	294.	•
13	294.	This defamatory statement about Mr. Katz was intentional and meant to harass
14	Plain	tiffs, who had never abused Ms. Humphries and which Ms. McCawley had proof
15	of.	
16	295.	Sigrid McCawley knew that her statements were harmful, defamatory and
17	false	
18	296.	Ms. McCawley again, refers to Plaintiffs as "abusers" on more than one
19	occas	sion, stating Plaintiffs' counterclaims "distract from and distort the truth", stating
<ul><li>20</li><li>21</li></ul>	Plain	tiffs are again, "abusers facing serious litigation" and that Plaintiffs are
22	"wea	ponizing the allegations brought against them".
23	297.	Ms. McCawley also states here that Plaintiffs "filed falsely and recklessly"
24	while	"implicate [ing] others" and that their counterclaims are a "factually unfounded
25	atten	apt to portray the women they abused as liars", thus exposing their true nature.
26	298.	Ms. McCawley's statements are not privileged.
27	270.	1918. 1910 Cawley & Statements are not privileged.
28		

1	299.	Ms. McCawley knew that her statements were false and/or of reckless
2	disreg	ard for the truth including because she possessed information which proved her
3	clients	s' allegations to be false and that Plaintiffs statements within their Counterclaim
4	were t	rue.
5	300.	Ms. McCawley referred to Plaintiffs as "abusers" on three occasions in one
6 7	defam	natory statement.
8	301.	Ms. McCawley falsely states Plaintiffs portray the women "they abused" as
9	liars.	
10	302.	Ms. McCawley knew that her statements were false and defamatory,
11		
12		ading the press, the media and public including any potential juror to prematurely
13	believ	re that Plaintiffs absolutely "abused" women and children.
14	I. Ms. N	AcCawley's Statements to The Daily Mail and Meaww.com on September
15	28 <sup>th</sup> , 2	2022 - https://meaww.com/dusty-and-mitchell-button-accusers-sexually-abused-
16	<u>in-gur</u>	n-room-but-couple-claims-toy-guns
17		• The accusers' attorney Sigrid McCawley said in a statement, "As put forth
18		in our complaint, Dusty and Taylor Button assaulted seven different
19		dancers, including women who have chosen to make their claims
20		anonymously. The Buttons' on-their-heels assertion now that seven
21 22		different women made up detailed and harrowing accounts of abuse for
23		fame is absurd."
24	303.	Ms. McCawley's statements are not privileged.
25		•
26	304.	Though the allegations are false in their entirety, Plaintiffs have never met or
27	heard	of Jane Doe 1, as asserted for three years now.
28		

- 305. Ms. McCawley defamatorily states "Dusty and Taylor Button assaulted seven different dancers, **including** women who have chosen to make their claims anonymously", while hiding behind that anonymity and simultaneously speaking to press and spreading their defamation with protection from the Court from any and all accountability.
- 306. Ms. McCawley made knowingly false and defamatory statements by way of stating "As put forth in our complaint, Dusty and Taylor Button assaulted seven different dancers...".
- 307. Ms. McCawley intentionally inflicted harm upon Plaintiffs to mislead the public, the media and the press by knowingly using the word "and" whereas, Ms. McCawley intentionally and maliciously provided misleading statements regarding the "seven different dancers", as this allegation is not even listed in the complaint.
- 308. Plaintiffs have never met one of Ms. McCawley's clients.
- 309. At the time of the defamatory statement, Plaintiff Dusty Button had only met two of Ms. McCawley's clients stated as the "seven different dancers".
- 310. Ms. McCawley intentionally and maliciously stated Plaintiffs, together, 
  "assaulted seven different dancers" by knowingly using the word "and"; misleading 
  the media, the press and the public to believe Plaintiffs assaulted seven women 
  together as dance teachers while those seven were students.
- 311. Ms. McCawley knew that her defamatory statements would be far more enticing for the press, the media and the public, exposing her clients to mass media attention and gaining traction in the public eye for the litigation she was leading.

- 312. The Defendant intentionally and knowingly made false and defamatory statements by way of stating "The Buttons' on-their-heels assertion now that seven different women made up detailed and harrowing accounts of abuse for fame is absurd".
- Ms. McCawley, again, made intentional false and defamatory statements as Plaintiffs have never committed or been convicted of any crime and in fact, in every situation where any client of Ms. McCawley's brough forth false allegations to law enforcement, the reports resulted in unfounded reports, declination by the District Attorney to pursue the allegations and/or declination due to uncooperative behavior with law enforcement in 2017 and 2018.
- 314. Ms. McCawley was in possession of such declination in various reports which were closed by each and every law enforcement officer which her clients reported false allegations to.
- 315. Plaintiffs were harassed, defamed and threatened due to Ms. McCawley's intentional misrepresentation and/or reckless disregard for the truth as numerous third-party press and media outlets published that Plaintiffs, together, carried out a campaign of abusing children together, including all of Ms. McCawley's clients.
  - McCawley added, "A judge in Boston granted Sage Humphries a permanent restraining orders against the Buttons after hearing her testimony, and stated that he 'fully credited' her testimony making clear that he was satisfied 'beyond a reasonable doubt' that the Buttons' conduct amounted to abuse under the criminal laws. The Buttons are not only engaging in shameless victim-blaming, but they are also intentionally

violating the Boston court's restraining orders, which mandated them to surrender information that they stole from Ms. Humphries' cell phone to the Boston Police Department. The Buttons are abusers of young vulnerable women who were in their sphere of influence as aspiring dancers and now the rule of law."

- 316. Ms. McCawley made *knowingly false* and defamatory statements with the intent to mislead the public, the media and the press regarding Ms. Humphries' permanent restraining orders; as Ms. Humphries was not granted permanent restraining orders after hearing her testimony in 2018.
- 317. Ms. Humphries did not testify in 2018, her attorney made fraudulent statements on Sage Humphries' behalf in Court on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 stating Plaintiffs stalked Ms. Humphries and that Plaintiffs were selling illegal firearms in California, (both of which were false allegations), to ensure permanent restraining orders against Plaintiffs, and which is now subject to appeal on the grounds of fraud on the Court.
- 318. Plaintiffs were not present for this hearing and the decision was made ex-parte and Plaintiffs were incapable of defending themselves against the false allegations and in fact, were unaware of the fraudulent allegations made in Court in 2018 against them until discovery in the Nevada litigation took place.
- 319. Ms. McCawley knew her statements were defamatory as she was in possession of such reports and Court transcripts even prior to Plaintiffs being aware of this discovery and over a year prior to Ms. Humphries filing her complaint in 2021.
- 320. Ms. McCawley intentionally lied to the press and the media, misleading the public by way of stating the restraining orders "mandated them to surrender

information that they stole from Ms. Humphries' cell phone to the Boston Police Department".

- 321. Ms. McCawley's statements are not privileged.
- 322. Ms. McCawley was in possession of her clients' abuse prevention orders, (obtained fraudulently), which in fact, does not state that Plaintiffs are "mandated to surrender information" that Plaintiffs "stole from Ms. Humphries' cell phone to the Boston Police Department".
- 323. The abuse prevention order actually states: "D (Defendant) is to surrender any and all personal information pertaining to P, including electronically stored information < is not to be published, (arrow up) to Boston Police Department)"; whereas, it was stated at the 2017 hearing that Dusty and Taylor Button could turn over any electronically stored information to Ms. Humphries' attorney rather than the Boston Police Department, which they did (as stated in their 2017 Court transcript).
- 324. Ms. McCawley knew that her statements were false whereas, she has since backtracked her statement regarding stolen information after misleading the Court in Nevada that Plaintiffs stole her data and only after sanctions were issued against them for stolen data; she then backtracked after Ms. Humphries admitted the data was never stolen however, Ms. McCawley knew the data was never stolen prior to making her statements to the media and the press.
- The damage from Ms. McCawley's statements was already done as numerous media outlets had already published her statements.

 326. Plaintiffs never stole any information from Ms. McCawley's clients' cell phone and in fact, this statement by Ms. McCawley was never written on any restraining order regarding "mandating" Plaintiffs to surrender "stolen" data.

327. Ms. McCawley had the restraining order in her possession whereas, the written order is located on the page. Further, Ms. Humphries' application for a restraining order against Plaintiffs is below<sup>23</sup>:

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		COMMENT ST	I three court trace
Name of Plantill (person secking protection)	and estimate of manager and a second		Detenciant (person accessed of abuse)   Celeridant's
Sage Humphnes	>	D 145	usty Button #531
		Since	merville MA Sociolis
I am 18 or older:  I am under the age of 18, and  my	ellowing	C and C are	elencant and Plaintiff; currently married to each other e formerly married to each other not married but we are related to each other by od or marriage; specifically, the Detendant is my the parents of one or more children not related but live in the same household e formerly members of the same household
guns, ammunition, lirearms identification card, on to carry has over Fifty 9090	at hom	e X are	or were in a dating or engagement relationship.
Are there any prior or pending count assums in any country (avolving the Plaintiff and the Defendant In annulment, separate support, legal separation of prevention? (J. No. 2). Yes, give Count, type date, and its available) docket no.	or divorce, abuse	No.E	the Plaintiff shall complete the appropriate parts of
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in fear of ferminem serious physical harm.  2 to order the Defendant hot contact the.  3a. to order the Defendant to leave and remain the sis an anatument building or other.  3b. to order the Defendant to leave and remain 3c, to order the Defendant to leave and remain 3c, to order the Defendant to leave and remain 3c, to order the third president and address not an anatument of the to order that my verificate address not as the to order that my school address not appear to order the Defendant to pay me 5 direct result of the abuse:  3 to order the Defendant, who has a logal of 7 to order the relief requested on Page 2 of 8 to order the following:	or by using It unless author in away from a multiple family in away from a maway from a pear on the copear on the code with this Complain	orce, threat rized to do: my fesident y dishilting, my workpla my school: order, wder, in comp o so, to pay at pertaining	ce: See Plaintiff Confidential Information Form.  check here of since See Plaintiff Confidential Information Form.  See Plaintiff Confidential Information Form.  see Plaintiff Confidential Information Form.  pensation for the following losses suffered as a stemporary support to me.
tor tosses suffered, without advance notice	e to the Defe Court issues s ie whether su	ndant beca such a temp ch a tempo	tor me andor my children; and for compensation use there is a substantial blefshood of immediate parary Order, the Court will schedule a hearing erary Order should be continued, and I must appear Please complete affidivit
The Laurenties for a cool coarse for persons the Mariet from tubust For attended and a cool from a consist company year and tubust Tax 10050)	e abuse. The act the Dates: Alto	ens et the De ray's Other	ferstant may also condition a clime subject to criminal parables.  for the location where the alonged abuse documed.  COURT COPY

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Ms. Humphries has since stated in her deposition that the restraining order is not her handwriting aside from the signature. Ms. McCawley knew this to be true prior to making her defamatory statements to the media and the press.

- As seen, the abuse prevention order states: 1) Sage Humphries was in a dating relationship with Plaintiffs and 2) was not caused by force, threat or duress to engage in sexual relations; this is entirely contradictory to Sage Humphries' complaint which omits a relationship entirely and states she was not sexually abused whereas, Ms.

  McCawley wrote the complaint and knew the complaint was frivolous, resulting in defamatory statements outside of the judicial proceedings to embellish on false and frivolous allegations.
- Ms. McCawley was in possession of her clients' abuse prevention order and knew that her statements were false, defamatory and malicious, which caused severe harassment toward Plaintiffs including prior to filing Sage Humphries' complaint alleging rape which is proven false with this abuse prevention order, amongst other evidence such as Ms. Humphries own admission during her deposition where she verified that this abuse prevention order was obtained not to prevent abuse, but to prevent the public from ever discovering her and Daryl Katz illegal sexual misconduct.
- 330. In fact, Ms. McCawley's client, Sage Humphries has since admitted that she uploaded her camera roll onto Plaintiffs' hard drive in 2017 whereas, Ms. McCawley knowingly and falsely defamed Plaintiffs by stating they "stole" information from her clients' "cell phone"; this was an intentional infliction of harm against Plaintiffs to cause severe distress as Plaintiffs then stated for three years that they never stole any information from Ms. Humphries, but which led the press, the media and the public to believe that they did.

- 331. Sigrid McCawley *suspiciously* obtained a copy of Plaintiff's private tolling agreement with Mr. Katz which she then filed with the Court and sealed without Plaintiff's knowledge proving that she knew her previous statements about Plaintiffs and Daryl Katz were defamatory and that Plaintiffs statements were true while stating they were "peddling fiction".
- 332. Ms. McCawley made intentional false and defamatory statements to mislead the press, the media and the public, including any potential juror that Plaintiffs stole information from her clients' cell phone.
- 333. Ms. McCawley severely defamed Plaintiffs by stating "The Buttons are abusers of young vulnerable women who were in their sphere of influence as aspiring dancers and now the rule of law."
- Not only did the Defendant make the defamatory statement that Plaintiffs are abusers, she then states that the "vulnerable women" were "in their sphere of influence as aspiring dancers".
- 335. Plaintiffs have never met one of her clients.
- anyone and have never had any engagement with law enforcement regarding abuse; in fact, the false allegations and reports were cleared by exception, were declined, unfounded and not pursued due to the false nature of the allegations and the proof which showed the allegations to be false.
- J. Sigrid McCawley's Defamatory Statements to Cosmopolitan Online Magazine on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

- The plaintiffs' counsel Sigrid McCawley, managing partner at Boies

  Schiller Flexner LLP and a leading victims' rights attorney, is eager for
  the trial to begin. "We look forward to putting the women's case before a
  jury, which will hear the facts of the abuse they suffered while pursuing
  their dreams as dancers and not the fiction the Buttons are peddling in an
  act of desperation," she told Cosmopolitan following a February hearing.
- 337. Ms. McCawley's statements are not privileged.
- 338. Ms. McCawley's defamatory and false statements intentionally misled the public, the media and the press by stating the jury "will hear the facts of the abuse", "while pursuing their dreams as dancers" and "not the fiction the Buttons are peddling in an act of desperation".
- 339. Ms. McCawley stated Plaintiffs are "desperate" as a matter of fact and not as a personal opinion.
- 340. Ms. McCawley stated Plaintiffs are "acting" as a matter of fact and not an opinion.
- 341. Ms. McCawley referred to Plaintiffs' evidence and measures of defense as a matter of fact and not an opinion by stating that Plaintiffs were "peddling fiction".
- Ms. McCawley continued to make defamatory statements about Plaintiffs in the press and in the media *even after* a Court hearing on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 whereas, her clients' motion to dismiss Plaintiffs' counterclaim was DENIED and which included factual evidence of her clients' false police reports, perjury to law enforcement and evidence that her clients' allegations were fraudulent.

K. Sigrid McCawley's Defamatory Statements Made on NBC Miami "How Sigrid McCawley helped bring down Jeffrey Epstein" –

<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O4Ru8K6xiIY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O4Ru8K6xiIY</a> on January 29th, 2024.

- "Most recently we're doing a case on some ballerinas that had been victimized, some of them with the Boston Ballet, so the work has been pro bono in this case, and the commitment of the firm has been astronomical".
- 343. Ms. McCawley's statements are not privileged.
- 344. Ms. McCawley made defamatory and false statements in order to intentionally harm Plaintiffs, particularly by unnecessarily inserting an intentional defamatory statement into an interview about Ms. McCawley's representation of Virginia Giuffre and "taking down Epstein"; including by alluding to similarities between Epstein and Maxwell and Plaintiffs at every opportunity.
- 345. Ms. McCawley intentionally and falsely stated, "we're doing a case on some ballerinas that had been victimized, some of them with the Boston Ballet".
- 346. Ms. McCawley has only ever represented one client with the Boston Ballet, her client, Ms. Humphries but instead she states that "some of them" are "with the Boston Ballet", intentionally misleading the public, the media and the press that there were multiple victims and possibly children with the Boston Ballet who were abused by Plaintiffs.
- 347. Ms. McCawley made false and defamatory statements regarding her representation by way of stating that she was "doing a case on some ballerinas" whereas, at the time this defamatory, false and misleading statement took place, Ms. McCawley was only representing one ballerina, who was Plaintiffs' ex-girlfriend.

1	348.	Ms. McCawley knowingly, intentionally and maliciously made defamatory and
2	false statements to the media, the press and the public, including any potential juror to	
3	mislead them by way of her false statements.	
4	349.	Ms. McCawley's statements were intentionally false and defamatory and
5	intentionally inflicted harm on Plaintiffs.	
6 7	L. Sigrid McCawley's Biography on the Boies Schiller & Flexner LLP Website –	
8	Date Unknown	
9	350.	Sigrid McCawley's biography which is posted on the Boies Schiller Flexner
10	LLP website is defamatory in and of itself as her biography states:	
11		"She is also presently representing pro bono a group of ballerinas in their
12		efforts to hold their abusers accountable on sex trafficking charges."
13	351.	Ms. McCawley intentionally and knowingly presents false and defamatory
14	statements in her biography on the Boies Schiller & Flexner website by stating she is	
15 16	"representing a group of ballerinas".	
17	-	
18	352.	Ms. McCawley is not representing a group of ballerinas, she is representing
19	one ballerina, (Sage Humphries), two contemporary and	
20	Gutierrez and Jane Doe 2), one contemporary dance teacher (Gina Menichino), one	
21	unemployed yoga enthusiast (Rosemarie DeAngelo) and one (Jane	
22	Doe 1).	
23	353.	Aside from Sage Humphries and Plaintiff Dusty Button, there are no other
24	baller	rinas in this litigation or being represented by Ms. McCawley and which has been
25	verifi	ed through her client's own depositions.
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28	1	

- 354. Again, Ms. McCawley unethically played her false narrative to the media regarding "children", "ballerinas", "dance teachers", "students", and "mentors" amongst other "trigger words" to spread a false narrative that did not exist.
- 355. Ms. McCawley's false and defamatory narrative spread like wildfire, including leading the world to believe that Plaintiffs raped children who were their students.

  This false narrative is not even in the complaint, if the allegations in the complaint were true, which they are not.
- 356. Ms. McCawley's unethical acts of delusion and grandeur were a ploy to intentionally manipulate the press, the media, the public, the Court and any potential juror against Plaintiffs before they could even begin their defense nearly three years ago.
- 357. Ms. McCawley's biography only includes her representation of Ms. Giuffre in the Epstein and Maxwell case and mention of her representation of her clients in their litigation against Plaintiffs, once again ensuring a comparative false narrative that Plaintiffs were criminals whose actions were out of Epstein's "playbook".
- 358. Ms. McCawley also states in her biography that she is making "effort" to "hold" her clients' "abusers accountable for sex trafficking charges".
- 359. Plaintiffs were never facing any "charges" and in fact, have spoken to any and all law enforcement, on their own accord, associated with Sigrid McCawley's and her clients' attempts to falsify allegations to law enforcement, on multiple occasions whereas, Plaintiffs have sought help from law enforcement pertaining to the conspiracy and harassment against them.

M. Sigrid McCawley's Defamatory Statements Made to Fox News – September 30th, 2021

- Sigrid McCawley, attorney for the dancers, said the Buttons preyed upon the vulnerable:
  - "They are no longer in a position to use the dance world and their professions to perpetrate criminal behavior against young girls aspiring to become great dancers," she told Fox News in a statement. "Brave women are now coming forward and saying they must be stopped. We are grateful their voices are being heard."
- 360. Sigrid McCawley's statements are not privileged.
- 361. Again, Ms. McCawley intentionally and falsely states that the Buttons "preyed on" and sought out "the vulnerable" after knowing the narrative and allegations to be false prior to making her statements, including "hours of research" and "investigating her clients".
- 362. Ms. McCawley continues to falsely accuse Plaintiffs of criminal conduct even after over seven different police departments declined to bring charges against Plaintiffs, multiple reports were unfounded and cleared by exception and Plaintiffs were not found of any wrong doing as they did not and do not "perpetrate criminal behavior".
- 363. Ms. McCawley continues to torment Plaintiffs, causing severe emotional distress, persistently pushing to the media that Plaintiffs are criminals, leading the public to constantly repost untrue allegations such that, Plaintiffs are in prison and/or are going to prison after "being charged" with crimes of sexual assault.

364. Ms. McCawley knew her statements were false but made them anyway, intentionally influencing the public and any potential juror to believe her statements to be true.

## N. Ms. McCawley's Defamatory Statements to the Washington Post - October 1st, 2021

- "As often happens in these cases, once a survivor is strong enough to go public, you'll find other people who are familiar with the circumstances reach out," McCawley said in an interview Thursday. "I think we're going to see an avalanche of people going forward who have been exposed to these individuals and have been abused by them."
- 365. Ms. McCawley's statements fall outside of the judicial proceedings whereas, Ms. McCawley alludes to "an avalanche of people" coming forward who "have been exposed to 'these' individuals", referring to the Buttons; and "have been abused by them".
- Ms. McCawley led the public and any potential Juror to believe that a massive number of individuals, (an avalanche), similar to that of the Epstein case, would be coming forward to state that they were, without a doubt, abused by the Plaintiffs.
- 367. This statement is not only unethical, but defamatory, harassing and intimidating at the very least.

# The Aftermath of Sigrid McCawley's Defamatory Global Media Campaign Waged Against Plaintiffs

368. Plaintiffs will *never recover* from Ms. McCawley's defamatory global media campaign which was unethically and unfairly waged against them *prior* to the onset of the litigation in Nevada.

- Ms. McCawley's reach and her firms' connections are so intertwined with the media and elite network of those who are capable of "shaping the press to purvey their malicious and frivolous narrative" that Plaintiffs could not keep up with the defamatory, harassing and intimidating statements made by Ms. McCawley, her clients and her associates, particularly once Plaintiffs lost their counsel in October of 2022.
- 370. Ms. McCawley knew that the narrative she so eagerly created and spread to the media was one of such an egregious nature that it would inflict severe harm and trauma upon Plaintiffs whereas, there would be no recovery from the defamatory statements made.
- 371. The aftermath of Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements and global media campaign against Plaintiffs was catastrophic; preventing Plaintiffs from being able to properly defend themselves in the media and even in their own litigation, including being prevented from taking action against Sigrid McCawley, herself.
- 372. Ms. McCawley intentionally arranged for her clients' to be interviewed by Julia Jacobs of The New York Times *prior* to her clients' complaint being filed and Plaintiff Taylor Button being served.
- 373. On July 28th, 2021, The New York Times' defamatory article featuring Sigrid McCawley and her clients, Sage Humphries and Gina Menichino was published.
- Plaintiff Mitchell Taylor Button was not yet served when the article was published whereas, Plaintiff discovered he was being sued by reading The New York Times defamatory article which was sent to Plaintiffs by numerous third parties.

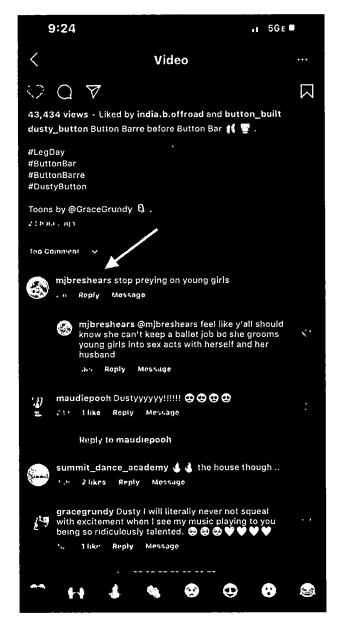
- 375. Plaintiff Dusty Button was not named as a Defendant in the lawsuit filed by Sage Humphries or Gina Menichino.
- 376. The impact of Defendants' defamatory statements to the media, the public and the press was **catastrophic** to Plaintiffs, their livelihood and their mental health.
- 377. Immediately, upon the publishing of Defendants' defamatory statements in The New York Times on July 28th, 2021, Plaintiffs' businesses, careers, and reputations were destroyed.
- 378. Plaintiffs received *hundreds* of messages directly following the article published in The New York Times whereas, any and all contracted work and sponsorships for the foreseeable future.
- 379. This resulted in millions of dollars lost in revenue, assets and income, as Plaintiffs' businesses were destroyed.
- 380. As seen, *supra*, Plaintiffs themselves, were their business, contracted by numerous private contractors which immediately ceased working with Plaintiffs following the defamatory global media campaign waged against them, including but not limited to contractors and sponsors who had employed and worked with Plaintiffs for *over fifteen years*, and who immediately disassociated themselves from Plaintiffs.
- 381. Plaintiffs were sent death threats and harassing messages, as hundreds of thousands of accounts reposted Defendants' defamatory statements from the articles which were intentionally harmful to Plaintiffs as part of Sigrid McCawley's global defamatory media campaign against Plaintiffs from the onset.

- Plaintiffs were physically, forcibly and embarrassingly removed from public events where their names and likenesses were recognized from the media that Defendant orchestrated.
- 383. Sigrid McCawley's eagerness for exposure of the litigation she was leading in the media, the press and the public was so egotistical that she unethically played to the media even before Plaintiffs were served with the complaint.
- 384. Sigrid McCawley even conspired with her client Sage Humphries to create a defamatory social media campaign against Plaintiffs three months prior to the complaint being filed whereas, Sage Humphries' best friend, (Madison Breshears)<sup>24</sup>, instigated the campaign that would gain traction leading up to Ms. Humphries' complaint being filed, as seen in the screenshots below.
- 385. In fact, Plaintiffs recently discovered that Madison Breshears was informed by Sigrid McCawley that the New York Times article would be posted on July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021, leading Ms. Breshears to conspire with Ms. McCawley so that she could be the "first to break the story", before the New York Times in order to gain traction for the litigation, in May of 2021.
- 386. Around 9:00pm EST on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Plaintiff Dusty Button received an initial attack of two false and defamatory public comments on her Instagram profile page in response to a video she posted of herself dancing from Defendant's personal Instagram account with the username, @mjbreshears<sup>25</sup> which stated the following:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Plaintiffs currently have an ongoing lawsuit against Madison Breshears in The Southern District of New York – see case: 1:24-CV-03757 – Button et al. v Breshears

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> @mibreshears is Defendant Madison Jane Breshears' personal Instagram account.

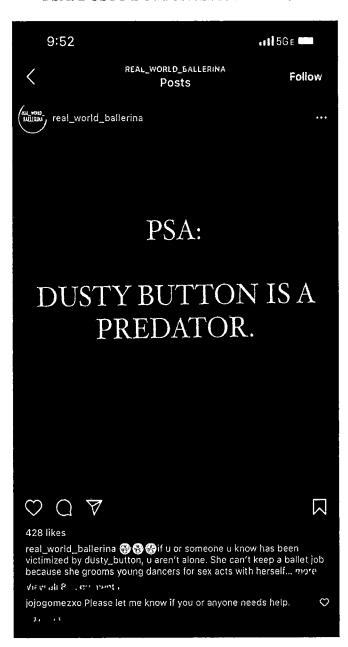
"stop preying on young girls" and "feel like y'all should know she can't keep a ballet job bo she grooms young girls into sex acts with herself and her husband".



Within seconds of Plaintiffs blocking and reporting, (what Plaintiffs now know to be Madison Breshears' personal account), @mjbreshears, the following defamatory statements were posted by Madison Breshears on her anonymous, yet famous account @Real World Ballerina:

POST ONE BY MADISON BRESHEARS

"PSA: DUSTY BUTTON IS A PREDATOR"



## POST TWO BY MADISON BRESHEARS

AMENDED COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

"This keeps getting removed. And she blocked me. But if you follow Dusty Button, you should know she can't keep a ballet job because she grooms young girls to engage in sex acts with herself and her husband".



POST THREE BY MADISON BRESHEARS

"[toxic emoji], if u or someone u know has been victimized by dusty\_button, u aren't alone.

She can't keep a ballet job because she grooms young dancers for sex acts with herself and her husband. This will probably get removed, she has managed to block and remove my other posts, but I hope at least someone can see this [toxic emoji]".

real\_world\_ballerina if u or someone u know has been victimized by dusty\_button, u aren't alone. She can't keep a ballet job because she grooms young dancers for sex acts with herself and her husband. This will probably get removed, she has managed to block and remove my other posts, but I hope at least someone can see this.

### POST FOUR BY MADISON BRESHEARS

"I have friends who have personally been victimized, or known someone victimized by

@dusty\_button. Don't give her a platform".



# POST FIVE BY MADISON BRESHEARS

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"I don't expect anyone to take my word on faith! This is a serious accusation, and you are justified in being skeptical. From my end, knowing what I know (but am unable to disclose in detail), I feel like the right thing to do is at least warn you guys. If anyone is at least a little more careful or cautious around her, it's worth it to me."

<u>ئ</u> 11:53 I don't expect anyone to take my word on faith! This a serious accusation, and you are justified in being skeptical. From my end, knowing what I know (but am unable to disclose in detail) I feel like the right thing to do at least warn you guys. anyone is at least a little more careful or cautious around her, it's worth it to me. Believe victims doesn't even apply here, IM NOT VICTIM. I'm here to say keep asking questions, stay alert, stay safe, I love u

- 388. As a direct result of Ms. McCawley "diligently investigating" her client,

  Madison Breshears posted near exact verbiage of what would be written in Sigrid

  McCawley's complaint three months later.
- 389. Madsion Breshears is licensed attorney in New York.
- 390. On May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Ms. Breshears stated on a phone call to Plaintiffs that she had not spoken to Ms. McCawley's clients prior to her defamatory statements being made on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021, proving she conspired with Ms. McCawley to make her online, defamatory publications prior to the complaint being filed as the information received by Ms. Breshears was nearly identical to the defamatory statements made by Ms. McCawley but which are not similar to the complaint.
- 391. As a direct and proximate result of this conspiracy, Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements led to further harassment against Plaintiffs caused extreme emotional distress.
- 392. For example, as seen in the screenshots below, Plaintiffs' previous "fan page" accounts on social media were transitioned into hate pages due to Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements in the press and the media; every person formerly associated with Plaintiffs believed Plaintiffs were going to prison as a direct cause of Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements:
  - "Hey Dusty! I hope prison is everything you hope for! Maybe those tilts and competition tricks will come in handy behind bars?! Best of luck!" – Instagram user @lauramarbs

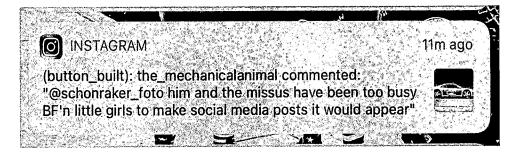
Hey Dusty! I hope prison is everything you hope for! Maybe those tilts and competition tricks will come in handy behind bars?! Best of luck!

Accept message request from lauramarbs?

If you accept me where wall area he above to call you at discernfo like your Activity Status and when you we road mensage.

Accept

"@schonraker\_foto him and the missus have been too busy BF'n<sup>26</sup> little girls to make social media posts it would appear" – Instagram user @the\_mechanicalanimal.



"Hi! According to a recent post by @real\_world\_ballerina, dusty button is a predator
who is not someone people should be looking up to! Just spreading the word." –

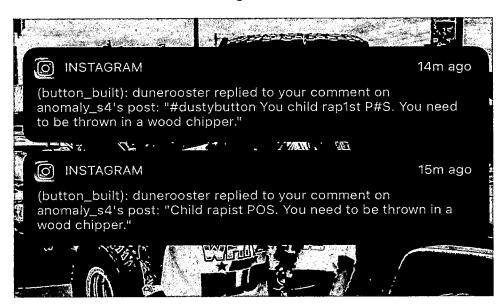
Instagram User - @cheryltanxr

 $<sup>^{26}</sup>$  \*BF'n – abbreviation for "butt fucking" but which means "sodomizing"; in this case, a female child.

- "#dustybutton You child rap1st<sup>27</sup> P#S<sup>28</sup>. You need to be thrown in a wood chipper." –

  Instagram User @dunerooster
- "Child rapist POS<sup>29</sup>. You need to be thrown in a wood chipper." Instagram User -

# @dunerooster



- As another example, (depicted by the screenshot below), following the initial post, numerous hate pages and accounts were created as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's conspiring and defamatory statements, in order to bully, harass and threaten Plaintiffs.
  - Username @dusty button hatepage

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Rap1st = rapist.

 $<sup>^{28}</sup>$  P#S = Piece of shit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> POS = piece of shit.



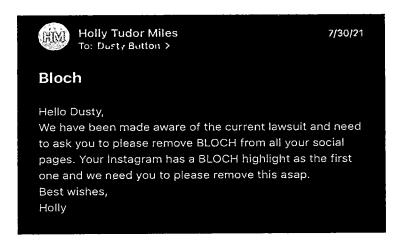
- This is just a fraction of the communications, notifications, threats and harassment which Plaintiffs received following Defendants' defamatory post, all of which Plaintiffs have documented and preserved for discovery.
- As a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements, Plaintiffs received further harassing and defamatory messages regarding posts on the internet:



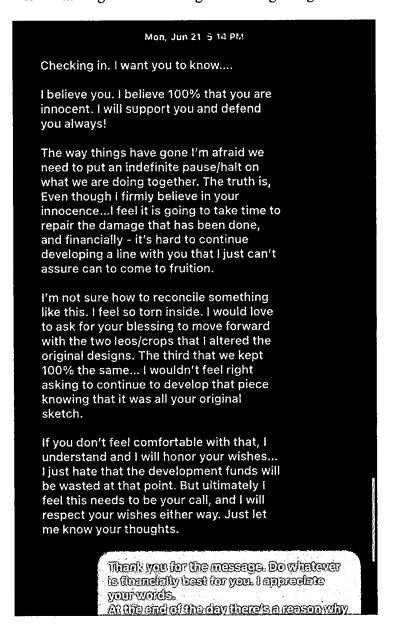
396. Ms. McCawley uses unethical behavior inside and outside of the Courtroom to ensure her manipulative tactics gain and advantage for herself and her clients, conspiring with her clients to defame and harass Plaintiffs by whatever means necessary.

397. Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were intentional, willful and malicious whereas, she knowingly made false and defamatory statements about Plaintiffs.

- 398. Ms. McCawley's intentional defamatory statements caused Plaintiffs severe emotional distress including because Ms. McCawley ensured Plaintiffs discovered they were being sued through The New York Times article about her clients' rather than the appropriate manner of being served a summons.
- 399. Ms. McCawley's unethical behavior and defamatory statements to the media, the press and the public was the direct cause of Plaintiffs' loss of income, destruction of reputation and careers and severe emotional trauma.
- 400. Due to Ms. McCawley's intentional defamatory statements and arrangement of a global media campaign against Plaintiffs, Dusty and Taylor Button immediately lost any and all business including that those who once employed and had business relations with Plaintiffs, entirely disassociated from them including but not limited to the examples of text messages below:
  - Email from Holly Tudor Miles of BLOCH INC. who Plaintiff worked for
    and had a business and personal relationship with for over fifteen years but
    who completely disassociated from Plaintiff immediately following The
    New York Times article, with no questions asked, just one day after the
    defamatory article, arranged by Sigrid McCawley was published.



 Text message from Bree Hafen to Dusty Button, notifying Plaintiff of terminated agreement and negotiations regarding a collaboration.



 Text message from Shelby Richardson to Dusty Button, notifying Plaintiff of termination of employment.

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Mon, Jul 19 9 38 AM

#### Hi Dusty,

First and foremost we wanted to thank you for all that you have taught our kids and bringing the love of ballet back into the classroom as its such a huge part of our program. However, at this time we will not be having you at our intensive this year. We had some concerned parents come forward with some social media posts and feel that we cannot ignore them even if social media is to be taken with a grain of salt. Our top priority is our families and the dance community we have built. This is a time where we need to put them first. I really hope you can understand where we are coming from as we truly have enjoyed having you at the studio and we are hopeful that we will have you back very soon. Again, thank you so much for all that you have done for our students. We will miss you having you at the intensive.





Text message from Jacqueline Porter, (owner and director of The Dallas

Conservatory), to Dusty Button, notifying Plaintiff of termination of employment.

## Wed, Jun 16 7 07 AM

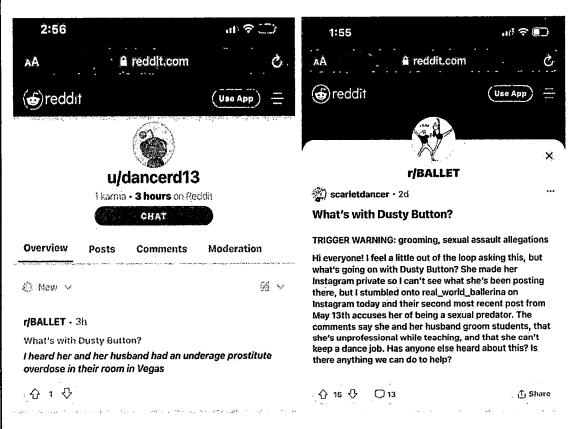
Hi, Dusty. I am sure you might have been expecting this. With profound respect for you and your years of incredible work ... and gratitude for your work with our children ... and deep regret for the situation that you find yourself in, I will need to cancel our agreement to bring you in for intensive.

There is a possibility that private clients who respect your work as I do might have you do a solo.

403. As a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements, an entire Reddit discussion was created to further spread this defamation, harass, shame, embarrass and threaten Plaintiffs including defamatory posts from "anonymous" users which further destroyed the reputations of Plaintiffs including but not limited to the following screenshots below:

"I heard her and her husband had an underage prostitute overdose in their room in Vegas" anonymous user on Reddit known as u/dancerd13 (left).

Reddit thread created to defame Plaintiffs as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's false and defamatory statements – Username @scarletdancer (right).



404. Further examples of defamatory and harassing posts as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's false and defamatory remarks are below:

\_\_\_

"Now that it's finally public that Dusty Button is a sexual predator, don't you think it's time ya'll stop following her on Instagram? That your children stop following her? That your company stops following her? Who we follow is a reflection of our own values. Do you share the values of a sexual predator?" – Username: Kim Comelek

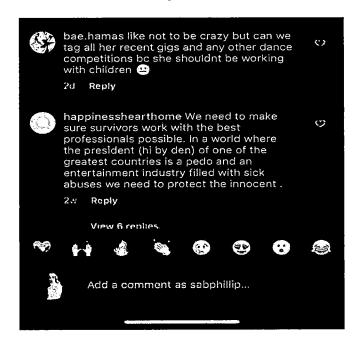


"Yikes. Who MAKES us set goals that we can ONLY reach with them" [eye roll emoji]. Yeah, congrats on achieving your abuse goals. Wonder if sexually assaulting minors was worth your career dissolving over. You're not enough for him; you never were, never will be. You can not be the missing piece for a sociopath and pedophile."

wa @hansdino nataly\_ Ö Reply  $xx\_bombshell$  Yikes. "Who MAKES us set goals that we can ONLY reach with them"  $\ensuremath{\mathfrak{G}}$ Yeah, congrats on achieving your abuse goals. Wonder if sexually assaulting minors was worth your career dissolving over. You're not enough for him; you never were, never will be. You can not be the missing piece for a sociopath and 3h Reply

"like not to be crazy but can we tag all her recent gigs and any other dance competitions be she shouldn't be working with children". - Instagram user



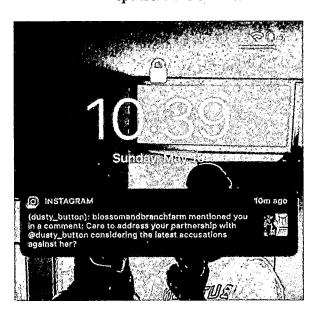


"Pedo" – Instagram user @royalt xo



AMENDED COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

"Care to address your partnership with @dusty\_button considering the latest
accusations against her?" – Instagram user @blossomandbranchfam to Plaintiff's
sponsor BLOCH Inc.



 "I heard her and her husband had an underage prostitute overdose in their room in Vegas"; "where did you hear that??; "Just from a friend who knows a lot, not reputable but dusty and her husband are clearly abusing young dancers. More are coming out now." The New York Times article is also posted again below:

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https://www.nytimes.com/2021/07/29/arts/dance/mitchell-button-dusty-button-abuse.html? referringSource=articleShare	
分 3 ↔ □ Reply 및 Award ① Share ···	
DancerD13 · 3v ago	
I heard her and her husband had an underage prostitute overdose in their room in Vegas	
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Temporary-Avocado882 • 31 a53	
where did you hear that??	
⊙ 分 2 ⇩ □ Reply 및 Award ① Share …	
DancerD13 · s, 3.4	
Just from a friend who knows a lot, not reputable but dusty and her husband are clearly abusing young dancers. More are coming out now.	
介 2 办 □ Reply 및 Award ①, Share …	

- These above referenced screenshots from third parties are just a *fraction* of the loss of reputation and business, harassment, bullying, threats and further defamation Plaintiffs received as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's false and defamatory statements made in the media.
- 406. Due to Ms. McCawley's defamatory, false and misleading statements,

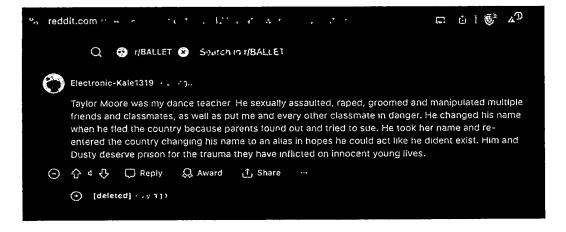
  Plaintiffs were harassed and threatened by third parties, including death threats and
  cyber harassment which followed directly after her defamatory statements were
  published in the media and the press.
- Ms. McCawley intentionally manipulated and misled the world to believe

  Plaintiff Taylor Button was "fleeing" the Country when he moved to be with his wife,

  (then girlfriend), while she was working for the Birmingham Royal Ballet in England.
- 408. Ms. McCawley's false and defamatory statements regarding Plaintiff Taylor Button's move to England encouraged further defamation of Plaintiffs.
- In addition to these statements, Ms. McCawley also stated and wrote within the complaint that Plaintiff Taylor Button has "several aliases" that he goes by in order to escape his criminal activity. Plaintiff Taylor Button was born with the name Mitchell Taylor Moore whereas, some of his family and friends referred to him as Mitch or Mitchell and others referred to him as Taylor.
- 410. Plaintiff Taylor Button took his wife's last name when they were married as most women take their husband's last name and Plaintiff Dusty Button was the last to carry on the Button name which Plaintiffs will now pass on to their son. Plaintiff Taylor Button took his wife's name to honor her grandfather who passed away during

the first wave of defamation that Ms. McCawley's client curated prior to their partnership.

- Ms. McCawley's intentional defamatory statements, leading the public and any potential juror to believe Mr. Button changed his name for any other purpose than to take the last name of his wife is malicious, unethical and morally wrong as it immediately caused severe harassment, bullying and further defamation of Plaintiffs.
- 412. In fact, due to Ms. McCawley intentionally sensationalizing her clients' complaint, the Nevada District Court granted Plaintiffs' motion to strike certain portions of her complaint as they were intentionally meant to mislead and sensationalize the complaint and had nothing to do with the allegations brought forth.
- 413. As an example, this "anonymous" Reddit user took to the forum to harass and defame Plaintiffs as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements made in the media and in the written complaint.



414. For the record, Mr. Button has never been sued prior to July 28th, 2021 and has never been accused of any crime or other criminal behavior, including the allegations brought forth twelve years after he left the country to be with his wife. Plaintiffs left England in 2011 and did not get married until 2015 whereas, Plaintiff Taylor Button

took his wife's last name as an act of chivalry and respect to Dusty's grandfather who passed away in 2017 and therefore did not change his name when he left the country, nor did he "flee" the Country. These defamatory statements were a direct cause of Ms. McCawley's defamatory remarks written in her clients' complaint where she stated, "Taylor fled to London, England".

- 415. Although Ms. McCawley's defamatory and egregious statements in the complaint are protected, her defamatory statements in the media is not.
- 416. Ms. McCawley knew her statements inside and outside the Courtroom were defamatory and harassing but was intentionally manipulative, deceitful and harassing toward Plaintiffs as she knew that her name, her firm's name and her accolades would excuse her behavior however, Ms. McCawley's unethical tactics and eagerness to destroy the lives of two people who did not deserve the harm she caused, should not go unpunished.

# Sigrid McCawley's Destruction of Plaintiffs' Business, Goods and Services

- As stated in the above references, Plaintiffs' names and likeness was their *only business*, which generated literally all of their revenue, income and business, whereas Plaintiffs, themselves, and what they provided to their respective industries was solely based on what they provided as their name brands known as Dusty Button, Taylor Button, Mitch/Mitchell Button, Mitchell Taylor Button, "The Buttons", Button Built, Button Brand and Bravado by Dusty Button.
- 418. Plaintiffs' established business, goods and services were directly sourced and provided from their good names, talent, expertise and reputations, which were

completely destroyed by Sigrid McCawley, her unethical play to the media and the press and her defamatory posts and remarks.

- As stated in the above referenced facts, Plaintiffs were highly respected, extremely well-known, leaders of the dance industry and the automotive industry, and reliant on their businesses which were well established for over fifteen years, as each Plaintiff was their own business in which they were hired based on their desired skill sets in their industries, which others could not offer.
- 420. Plaintiffs had established business with signed negotiated contracts with three companies to manufacture and sell their dancewear line which was in its initial phase and well under way as Plaintiffs were beginning the second wave of these partnerships when Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements derailed all operations.
- Plaintiffs lost any and all business immediately and for the foreseeable future as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's unethical play to the media and intentional defamatory statements.
- 422. Sigrid McCawley made her statements with actual malice as she knew that, as a result of the publications, the Plaintiffs would suffer financial harm.
- 423. Sigrid McCawley knew that her statements were false and intentionally crippled Plaintiffs' business and ability to generate revenue and income as she maliciously referred to Plaintiffs' goods and services because the "power" she claims Plaintiffs "abused" was the power of their business which was their talent, expertise and their reputable names.
- 424. Sigrid McCawley knew that her statements were false and intentionally crippled Plaintiffs' goods and services which included Plaintiff Dusty Buttons'

teaching, provided choreography, modeling, dancing, guest performing, speaking engagements, design concepts, marketing and brand ambassadorship, all of which were destroyed as Plaintiff Dusty Button was her own goods and services, as her name and career was her brand and her business.

- 425. Sigrid McCawley knew that her statements were false and intentionally crippled Plaintiffs' goods and services which included Plaintiff Taylor Buttons' design work, custom automotive creations, sponsorships, commercial shoots, events, marketing, advertising and speaking engagements, all of which were destroyed as Plaintiff Taylor Button was his own goods and services, as his name and career was his brand and his business.
- 426. Sigrid McCawley intentionally, willfully and maliciously made defamatory statements to numerous media and press outlets which in turn, resulted in further defamation by hundreds of thousands of third parties on social media, in the press and other new outlets.
- dance industry and community, automotive industry and community and further, to dance and automotive forums including but not limited to Facebook, Reddit and TikTok and was widely spread via communications through various messaging platforms nationally and internationally.
- 428. Sigrid McCawley's defamatory remarks were not only spread in written form but were widely spread via word of mouth through the grapevine of the industries which Plaintiffs were so highly respected and prominent in.

- 429. Sigrid McCawley was the curator and creator defamatory remarks and posts in which she had complete control of, using her influence and abuse of power to reach millions of people to intentionally, willfully and maliciously defame Plaintiffs while knowingly inflicting intentional harm on Plaintiffs and their business and reputations.
- 430. Sigrid McCawley's defamatory posts and remarks to a mass media audience was intentionally dishonest and her defamatory remarks were stated for an improper motive with the intent to injure Plaintiffs without just cause or excuse.
- 431. Sigrid McCawley knew that, as a result of the publications, Plaintiffs would suffer financial harm and never be capable of generating revenue using their names again.
- 432. Plaintiffs suffered complete loss of business and sales including that their income was solely based on a per performance basis whereas, Plaintiffs' income was generated upon completion of work as they were themselves, their business.
- 433. For example, Plaintiff Dusty Button's teaching classes and performances were immediately canceled following Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements including but not limited to, in The New York Times.
- 434. As another example, Plaintiff Dusty Button immediately lost any and all business with all scheduled dance studios, summer intensive courses, and events which she was scheduled to guest teach and choreograph for, including scheduled guest performance appearances nationally and internationally as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements and unethical play to the press and the media.

- As another example, Plaintiff Taylor Button immediately lost any and all business related to his brands including his business and brand "Button Built", with all scheduled events in the automotive industry including pre-planned design builds for clients and customers including prominent name brands which were sponsors of Plaintiff Taylor Button, all of whom canceled their builds and design concept work with Plaintiff for the foreseeable future.
- 436. Further, Plaintiffs both immediately lost any and all contracts with sponsors, endorsements and event appearances in their respective industries including but not limited to: BLOCH Inc., Tiger Friday, Capezio, Yumiko, MPG Sport, Fenti, Volcom, Discount Dance, RedBull, Adidas, WeWork, Rotiform Wheels, Brixton Forged, Momo racing, Bride Racing, Nitto Tires, Toyo tires, Brembo, Ferrari Parts, Tial Concepts, Xona Rotor, Aviva Performance, Impressive Wraps, Inozetek, Tubi Style, Vivid Motorsport, Voodoo Automotive, SEMA Auto Show, Crep Protect, Accuair Suspensions, Currie axels, Pelican LLC, Greyman Tactical, PRP seats, KMC wheels, RAM mounts, Metalcloak suspension and body components, THULE, Rebel Offroad, PPG paint, Morimoto LED lighting solutions, BAJA off-road lighting solutions, Powertank, Maxxtraxx, HP tuners, Emory Motorsports, SABELT and Illest, amongst many others not listed here.
- 437. Plaintiffs not only lost their business "Button Brand", suffering the complete destruction of their self-made brand but were forced to refund customers for items sold due to the connection of the defamatory statements made by Sigrid McCawley and the third parties who "grapevined" off of her defamatory statements in the media and the press.

- 438. Plaintiffs completely lost and forfeited their brand, Button Brand due to the defamatory statements made in the media and the press by Sigrid McCawley and her clients.
- 439. Plaintiffs had a pre-planned, negotiated contract with dancewear company

  Tiger Friday whereas, Plaintiffs designed, licensed and would market the line of
  leotards and dancewear utilizing the Button name and brand to expand their already
  successful company and image.
- 440. Plaintiffs' contract was immediately canceled as a direct result of Defendants' defamatory remarks.
- 441. Plaintiffs were not paid for work already completed as Tiger Friday continued to use Plaintiffs' already completed designs, due to the false and defamatory statements made by Sigrid McCawley and her global media campaign waged against Plaintiffs.
- Plaintiffs' brand, Bravado by Dusty Button was a dancewear and leotard line for dancers in which Plaintiffs had previous negotiated contracts with sponsored third-party companies and distributors such as Discount Dance, Showstopper and GK Elite, as well as advertised and garnered sales of this line through their own website "bravadodancewear.com" and through Plaintiffs' former social media page on Instagram, @bravado\_dancewear and Plaintiffs' personal social media account, @dusty\_button.
- 443. Bravado by Dusty Button was sold at various dance events for distribution, whereas, sales and contracts were immediately terminated following \$100,000.00 of partner investment and nearly a year of travel and planning as a direct result of Sigrid

McCawley's defamatory statements in the global media campaign waged against Plaintiffs.

- Defendants' defamatory remarks forced the termination of Bravado by Dusty

  Button as all sales came to a halt and additionally, customers demanded refunds

  stating the brand was associated with "sexual predators", "perpetrators", "criminal behavior" and "rapists".
- and the press, Plaintiffs' businesses, Button Brand, Button Built, and Bravado by

  Dusty Button were completely destroyed, losing hundreds of thousands of dollars in
  revenue and costs, which were already paid, promised and negotiated with third party
  companies and distributors.
- Any and all marketing for the above reference brands with associated accounts advertising those brands including all sales were terminated as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's false and defamatory posts and remarks.
- The seriousness of Defendants' defamatory statements proves a clear intention to cause damage to Plaintiffs.
- The nature and substance of Defendants' defamatory posts, remarks and actual knowledge that her statements were untrue prove that Defendants' actions were willful, intentional and malicious.
- defamatory statements and the audience that the Defendant intended to, and did reach, proves without question, her intent to harm Plaintiffs' careers, businesses and reputations as the false statements were aimed *specifically* at Plaintiffs' colleagues, clients and target demographics through these defamatory

statements in the global media campaign waged against Plaintiffs including but not limited to published defamatory statements in The New York Times, Cosmopolitan, The Boston Globe, ABC News, The Daily Mail and other mass media outlets including the press and nearly every major news outlet and social media account that were otherwise outside of Plaintiffs' industries.

- A50. Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements caused the *entire* dance industry to not only turn against Plaintiff Dusty Button, (who had worked her entire life to build the reputation she was known for in her industry and was at the pinnacle of her career), but caused the industry to disassociate from Dusty, repost the defamatory statements and cease all communication with her, including halting any and all forms of employment for which she had been in extremely high demand for, for over fifteen years.
- industry to not only turn against Plaintiff Taylor Button, (who had worked over thirteen years to build the reputation of the idol he was and that he was known for in his industry and was at the pinnacle of his career), but caused the industry to disassociate from Taylor, repost the defamatory statements and cease all communication with him, including halting any and all forms of employment for which he had been in extremely high demand for, for over thirteen years.
- The defamatory remarks and posts made by Sigrid McCawley ignited a viral response which spread like wildfire, resulting in a 'grapevine' effect throughout Plaintiffs' industries including to their co-workers, clients, employers, potential employers, parents and children of those Dusty taught in the dance industry, sponsors,

potential sponsors, friends and family involved in the industries, customers, former employers, agencies, dance studio owners and other various third parties whereas, Plaintiffs could not defend themselves against such widespread industry gossip.

- 453. Sigrid McCawley specifically targeted Plaintiffs in her global media campaign waged against them, as they were influential and informative people in their industries in which the Defendant spread false statements further than it would seem at first blush.
- 454. Plaintiffs were completely prevented from defending themselves to all third parties as Defendants' defamatory statements were so immediately viral and out of control, that Plaintiffs could not control or manage the effects of Sigrid McCawley's false, defamatory and malicious statements.
- As a direct cause of Sigrid McCawley's false and defamatory statements and global media campaign waged against Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs have been unable to even have a ringtone, vibration or sound on their phones when notifications or calls come in, due to the influx of notifications, messages, harassment, death threats, unwanted threatening calls and the overwhelming immediate responses to Defendants' posts, comments and reposts whereas, Plaintiffs even had to take turns watching for notifications on each other's phones to even sleep just one hour as the harassing, threatening and defamatory remarks continued for months on end.
- To this day, Plaintiffs keep their phones on silent as it results in severe trauma and PTSD as a direct result of Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements and the global media campaign waged against them.

- 457. As previously stated herein, Plaintiffs' business, was their names and likeness as they were individually contracted due to their reputations of who they were as a business and as their names were their brands.
- 458. Plaintiffs were well-known and prominent figures in their industries and therefore, were contracted, employed and in high-demand because of their names and reputations, as they, themselves were their businesses for over fifteen years.
- 459. Plaintiffs' reputations, *prior* to Defendants' defamatory statements in her global media campaign waged against Plaintiffs and the slaughter of Plaintiffs' good names, was impeccable in both their respective industries whereas, Plaintiffs were well-liked, well-respected and in high demand due to their expertise in their industries, which others could not offer.
- 460. Defendant has never made any attempt to rectify the false and malicious statements even after Plaintiffs have proven her statements to be defamatory, false, misleading and intentionally harmful, including in litigation.
- with Sigrid McCawley's abuse of power and influence resulting in intense threats, harassment, and severe bullying and including the use of her fame as an attorney to intimidate and silence Plaintiffs while in litigation against her, Plaintiffs were led to believe recourse would be an impossibility against her.
- 462. Plaintiffs were so traumatized by Defendants' actions that they both suffered from suicidal thoughts, nearly taking their own lives as a direct result of the defamatory statements made by Sigrid McCawley and the global media campaign waged against them however, they have since championed those dark thoughts

without the help of the therapy they are unable to afford due to the destruction of their careers through Defendant's defamatory conduct.

- 463. Sigrid McCawley took affirmative steps to ensure Plaintiffs were without the ability to seek recourse against her until now with the threat of a law degree and intentional harm she inflicted on Plaintiffs by way of forcing them to be unemployed with no ability to generate income, releasing her of any responsibility as she knew it was a possibility for her statutes of limitation to expire before Plaintiffs could take action against her.
- 464. Defendant's defamatory campaign against Plaintiffs was directly responsible for hundreds of death threats and a hired convicted felon that was paid nearly \$100,000.00 to force Plaintiffs to destroy evidence that Defendant's defamation was meant to conceal; a felon who broke into Plaintiffs' home and thus rendered them in fear of their lives.
- Accordingly, any statute of limitations applicable to Dusty and Taylor's claims, if any, is tolled.
- 466. Sigrid McCawley's actions described above deprived Dusty and Taylor of the opportunity to commence this lawsuit before now.
- 467. Ms. McCawley is equitably estopped from asserting a statute of limitations defense as to Plaintiffs' claims.
- 468. Allowing Sigrid to do so would be unjust.
- 469. Sigrid McCawley took active steps to prevent Dusty and Taylor from commencing this lawsuit before now, including by destroying Plaintiffs' inability to work after the onset of her defamatory global media campaign against Plaintiffs began

and by using tactical intimidation by way of using her law degree to suppress and silence Plaintiffs from defending against her false and defamatory posts and remarks through litigation.

- 470. Plaintiffs have suffered and continue to suffer mental anguish, severe emotional distress and loss of enjoyment of life as a direct and proximate result of Sigrid McCawley's defamatory and malicious statements.
- Had Plaintiffs succumbed to the darkness that Sigrid McCawley cast over their lives, businesses, families and futures, this litigation would be criminal rather than civil as she is responsible for serving as the catalyst of the global defamatory media campaign waged against Plaintiffs and the fraudulent actions that nearly ended two lives that were once the brightest lights of their careers for millions of people abroad.

# **CAUSES OF ACTION**

## **COUNT I - INJURIOUS FALSEHOOD**

- 472. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained within paragraphs 1 through 471, *supra*, as if set forth herein.
- 473. The unprivileged statements made by Ms. McCawley to others about Plaintiffs were false and defamatory.
- 474. The Defendant's words were maliciously calculated to cause financial injury, constituting Plaintiffs' claim of Injurious Falsehood<sup>30</sup>.
- 475. Defendant's words were published in a written fashion to hundreds of thousands, if not millions of readers including in documented online content,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> The Libel and Slander Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. L.12, section 17, states that special damages are not necessary to plead or prove in an action for injurious falsehood in Florida.

newspapers, social media publications, law journals and in the media including on television programs.

- Ms. McCawley did not verify the accuracy of her clients' allegations before making her defamatory statements or otherwise made her statements after "hours of research", and therefore, made her statements out of neglect, reckless disregard for the truth and/or actual malice.
- 477. Ms. McCawley knowingly published, made defamatory and false statements and communicated those false statements to a mass audience of third parties including in the press and the media.
- 478. Ms. McCawley is liable for arranging the press and media outlets where the false and defamatory statements were made.
- Ms. McCawley's posts, false statements and defamatory remarks were the direct cause of Plaintiffs' complete loss of business and sales related to their names, likeness and brands whereas, Plaintiffs suffered actual damages, proven by bank statements, email and text communications, approval of government assistance programs, loss of counsel, loss of employment and other economic and financial evidence of damages as a result of Sigrid McCawley's false and defamatory statements.
- 480. The unprivileged statements made by Sigrid McCawley to others about Plaintiffs caused complete loss and injury to Plaintiffs' businesses, whereas Plaintiffs have not worked one, single job since July 28th, 2021, including that any and all contracts including the forementioned company contracts and agreements were

- 490. Plaintiffs are entitled to punitive damages, because Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were made with hatred, ill will, and spite, with the intent to harm Plaintiffs or in blatant disregard of the substantial likelihood of causing them harm.
- The statute of limitations for defamation claims, including injurious falsehood may be tolled, "during the pendency of a related lawsuit or arbitration related to the same defamatory statements" and, "the pendency of a motion to dismiss a related lawsuit may toll the statute of limitations until the motion is resolved" whereas, Plaintiffs have been involved in a pending litigation for nearly three years with Sigrid McCawley and her clients, resulting in any ability to financially afford representation and preventing Plaintiffs from seeking recourse against Ms. McCawley until now<sup>31</sup>.
- 492. Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were intentionally and specifically timed to prevent Plaintiffs from seeking recourse against her as Plaintiffs could not afford to file claims against Ms. McCawley, as her defamatory statements *immediately* destroyed Plaintiffs' ability to work and to generate income; this was intentional so that Plaintiffs could not seek recourse against Defendant until now.
- 493. Defendant is equitably estopped from asserting a statute of limitations as a defense and allowing her to do so would be **unjust**; therefore, Plaintiffs' statutes, if any, must be tolled.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> F.S. §95.051(g) - The 2023 Florida Statutes (including Special Session C) are tolled during the pendency of any arbitral proceeding pertaining to a dispute that is the subject of the action.

494. Because Sigrid McCawley's defamatory statements constitute intentional acts which were made with actual malice towards Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs seek an award for punitive damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs Dusty and Taylor Button demand judgment against Defendant Sigrid McCawley for damages, punitive damages, court costs, and such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

#### **COUNT II - DEFAMATION PER SE**

- 495. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained within paragraphs 1 through 471, *supra*, as if set forth herein.
- 496. The unprivileged statements made by Sigrid McCawley to others about Plaintiffs were false and defamatory.
- Plaintiffs caused complete loss and injury to Plaintiffs' businesses whereas, Plaintiffs have not worked one single job since July, 28th, 2021 including that any and all contracts and agreements were immediately and prematurely terminated following Ms. McCawley's conduct.
- 498. Sigrid McCawley made and published such statements negligently, with knowledge of the falsity of the statements, and/or with reckless disregard of their truth or falsity.
- 499. At the time Ms. McCawley made such statements, she knew or should have known that they were false and defamatory.
- 500. Hundreds of thousands of people *actually* read and/or heard the false and defamatory statements.

- Ms. McCawley's statements were not privileged.
- Ms. McCawley's statements were made and published with actual malice, oppression, and fraud in that she was aware at the time of the falsity of the publication and thus, made said statements and publications in bad faith, out of hatred and ill-will directed towards Plaintiffs without any regard for the truth.
- 503. Ms. McCawley possessed information and had access to information that showed her statements were false.
- Ms. McCawley made statements for which she had no factual basis.
- Ms. McCawley suggested Plaintiffs were involved in a serious crime involving moral turpitude or a felony, exposing Plaintiffs to ridicule in which reflected negatively on Plaintiffs' characters, morality and integrity whereas, the defamatory statements impaired Plaintiffs' financial well-being.
- The false statements made by Ms. McCawley to the media, the press and other third parties, including law enforcement are not privileged including because reports of a crime that are intentionally false or made with reckless disregard for the truth are not privileged.
- Because Ms. McCawley's false statements accused Plaintiffs of a serious crime and maligned Plaintiffs in their professions, those statements constitute defamation per se and Plaintiffs' injuries are presumed.
- Moreover, the statements tend to so harm the reputation of Plaintiffs as to lower their professional reputation in the community or deter third persons from associating or dealing with them including termination of any and all business, contracts or employment and, as such, constitute defamation per se.

- 509. As a direct and proximate result of the maliciously false and defamatory publication of statements to third parties by Sigrid McCawley, Plaintiffs have been severely damaged.
- The statute of limitations for defamation claims, including defamation per se may be tolled, "during the pendency of a related lawsuit or arbitration related to the same defamatory statements" and, "the pendency of a motion to dismiss a related lawsuit may toll the statute of limitations until the motion is resolved" whereas, Plaintiffs have been involved in a pending litigation for nearly three years with Sigrid McCawley and her clients, resulting in any ability to financially afford representation and preventing Plaintiffs from seeking recourse against Ms. McCawley until now.
- 511. Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were intentionally and specifically timed to prevent Plaintiffs from seeking recourse against her as Plaintiffs could not afford to file claims against Ms. McCawley, as her defamatory statements *immediately* destroyed Plaintiffs' ability to work and to generate income; this was intentional so that Plaintiffs could not seek recourse against Defendant until now.
- Defendant is equitably estopped from asserting a statute of limitations as a defense and allowing her to do so would be **unjust**; therefore, Plaintiffs' statutes, if any, must be tolled.
- Plaintiffs are entitled to punitive damages, because Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were made with hatred, ill will, and spite, with the intent to harm Plaintiffs or in blatant disregard of the substantial likelihood of causing them harm.

514. Because Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements constitute intentional acts which were made with actual malice towards Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs seek an award for punitive damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs Dusty and Taylor Button demand judgment against

Defendant Sigrid McCawley for damages, punitive damages, court costs, and such other relief
as the Court deems just and proper.

# **COUNT III – LIBEL PER SE**

- 515. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained within paragraphs 1 through 471, *supra*, as if set forth herein.
- 516. The unprivileged statements made by Sigrid McCawley to others about Plaintiffs were false and defamatory.
- The unprivileged statements made by Ms. McCawley to others about Plaintiffs caused complete loss and injury to Plaintiffs' businesses whereas, Plaintiffs have not worked one single job since July 28th, 2021 including that any and all contracts and agreements were immediately and prematurely terminated following Sigrid McCawley's conduct.
- 518. Sigrid McCawley made and published such statements negligently, with knowledge of the falsity of the statements, and/or with reckless disregard of their truth or falsity.
- 519. At the time Ms. McCawley made such statements, she knew or should have known that they were false and defamatory.
- 520. Hundreds of thousands of people actually read and/or heard the false and defamatory statements.

- 521. The statements were not privileged.
- The statements were published and stated by Sigrid McCawley with actual malice, oppression, and fraud in that she was aware at the time of the falsity of the publication and thus, made said statements and publications in bad faith, out of hatred and ill-will directed towards Plaintiffs without any regard for the truth.
- 523. Sigrid McCawley possessed information and had access to information that showed her statements were false.
- 524. Sigrid McCawley made statements for which she had no factual basis.
- 525. Moreover, the statements tend to so harm the reputation of Plaintiffs as to lower their professional reputations in the community or deter third persons from associating or dealing with them including termination of any and all business, contracts or employment and, as such, constitute libel *per se*.
- As a direct and proximate result of the maliciously false and defamatory statements and publication of statements to third parties by Sigrid McCawley, Plaintiffs have been severely damaged.
- 527. Sigrid McCawley made false and defamatory statements to a mass audience in which were so widely understood to be harmful that they are presumed to be defamatory as Sigrid McCawley made statements which accused Plaintiffs of committing crimes against children, particularly, ("young girls").
- The statute of limitations for defamation claims, including libel per se may be tolled, "during the pendency of a related lawsuit or arbitration related to the same defamatory statements" and, "the pendency of a motion to dismiss a related lawsuit may toll the statute of limitations until the motion is resolved" whereas, Plaintiffs have

been involved in a pending litigation for nearly three years with Sigrid McCawley and her clients, resulting in any ability to financially afford representation and preventing Plaintiffs from seeking recourse against Ms. McCawley until now.

- 529. Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were intentionally and specifically timed to prevent Plaintiffs from seeking recourse against her as Plaintiffs could not afford to file claims against Ms. McCawley, as her defamatory statements *immediately* destroyed Plaintiffs' ability to work and to generate income; this was intentional so that Plaintiffs could not seek recourse against Defendant until now.
- 530. Defendant is equitably estopped from asserting a statute of limitations as a defense and allowing her to do so would be **unjust**; therefore, Plaintiffs' statutes, if any, must be tolled.
- Plaintiffs are entitled to punitive damages, because Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were made with hatred, ill will, and spite, with the intent to harm Plaintiffs or in blatant disregard of the substantial likelihood of causing them harm.
- 532. Because Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements constitute intentional acts which were made with actual malice towards Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs seek an award for punitive damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs Dusty and Taylor Button demand judgment against Defendant Sigrid McCawley for damages, punitive damages, court costs, and such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

#### **COUNT IV – SLANDER PER SE**

- Ms. McCawley also made statements for which she had no factual basis.
- Ms. McCawley intentionally caused harm by telling Plaintiffs' co-workers, clients and employers these false and defamatory statements as to intentionally inflict harm on their reputations, careers and business including by making defamatory statements which accuse Plaintiffs of crimes and other immoral sexual acts.
- Moreover, the statements tend to so harm the reputation of Plaintiffs as to lower their professional reputation in the community or deter third persons from associating or dealing with them including termination of any and all business, contracts or employment and, as such, constitute slander *per se*.
- 545. The statute of limitations for defamation claims, including slander per se may be tolled, "during the pendency of a related lawsuit or arbitration related to the same defamatory statements" and, "the pendency of a motion to dismiss a related lawsuit may toll the statute of limitations until the motion is resolved" whereas, Plaintiffs have been involved in a pending litigation for nearly three years with Sigrid McCawley and her clients, resulting in any ability to financially afford representation and preventing Plaintiffs from seeking recourse against Ms. McCawley until now.
- 546. Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were intentionally and specifically timed to prevent Plaintiffs from seeking recourse against her as Plaintiffs could not afford to file claims against Ms. McCawley, as her defamatory statements *immediately* destroyed Plaintiffs' ability to work and to generate income; this was intentional so that Plaintiffs could not seek recourse against Defendant until now.

1	547.	Defendant is equitably estopped from asserting a statute of limitations as a	
2	defense and allowing her to do so would be unjust; therefore, Plaintiffs' statutes, if		
3	any, must be tolled.		
4	548.	As a direct and proximate result of the maliciously false and defamatory	
5	publication of statements to third parties by Ms. McCawley, Plaintiffs have been		
7	severely damaged.		
8	549.	Plaintiffs are entitled to punitive damages, because Ms. McCawley's	
9	defamatory statements were made with hatred, ill will, and spite, with the intent to		
10	harm Plaintiffs or in blatant disregard of the substantial likelihood of causing them		
11	harm.		
12	550.	Because Defendant's defamatory statements constitute intentional acts which	
13	330.	because Defendant's defamatory statements constitute intentional acts which	
14	were made with actual malice towards Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs seek an award for punitive		
15	damages.		
16		WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs Dusty and Taylor Button demand judgment against	
17	Defendant Sigrid McCawley for damages, punitive damages, court costs, and such other relie		
18	as the Court deems just and proper.		
19	COUNT V - INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS		
<ul><li>20</li><li>21</li></ul>	551.	Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained within paragraphs 1	
22	through 471, <i>supra</i> , as if set forth herein.		
23	552.	The unprivileged statements made by Sigrid McCawley to others about	
24	Plaintiffs were false and defamatory.		
25	553.	The unprivileged statements made by Sigrid McCawley to others about	
26	Plaintiffs caused complete loss and injury to Plaintiffs' business whereas, Plaintiffs		
27			
28			

associating or dealing with them including termination of any and all business, contracts or employment and, as such, constitutes *intentional infliction of emotional distress*.

- The Defendant's conduct was intentional and/or reckless, and caused extreme mental anguish and suffering including depression, embarrassment, loss of enjoyment of life and a decrease in quality of life, PTSD, suicidal thoughts and unbearable anxiety.
- Defendants' conduct was so extreme and outrageous, going far beyond what is considered normal or acceptable as her defamatory statements to the media, the press and the public were not privileged and were intentionally stated either 1) before her clients' complaint was even filed 2) in conspiracy with third-parties to prevent Plaintiffs from seeking recourse and resulting in complete loss of income and employment and 3) were intentionally stated to gain fame and notoriety in the media and the press with reckless disregard to the truth.
- As a direct and proximate result of the maliciously false and defamatory statements and publication of statements to third parties by Ms. McCawley, Plaintiffs have been severely and irreparably damaged.
- Plaintiffs are entitled to punitive damages, because Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were made with hatred, ill will, and spite, with the intent to harm Plaintiffs or in blatant disregard of the substantial likelihood of causing them harm.

567. Because Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements constitute intentional acts which were made with actual malice towards Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs seek an award for punitive damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs Dusty and Taylor Button demand judgment against Defendant Sigrid McCawley for damages, punitive damages, court costs, and such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

## **COUNT VI - PRIMA FACIE DEFAMATION**

- 568. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained within paragraphs 1 through 471, *supra*, as if set forth herein.
- The unprivileged statements made by Sigrid McCawley to others about Plaintiffs were false and defamatory.
- 570. The unprivileged statements made by Sigrid McCawley to others about Plaintiffs caused complete loss and injury to Plaintiffs' business whereas, Plaintiffs have not worked one single job since July 28th, 2021 including that any and all contracts and agreements were immediately and prematurely terminated following Sigrid McCawley's conduct.
- 571. Ms. McCawley made and published such statements negligently, with knowledge of the falsity of the statements, and/or with reckless disregard of their truth or falsity.
- 572. At the time Sigrid McCawley made such statements, she knew or should have known that they were false and defamatory.
- 573. Hundreds of thousands of people *actually* read and/or heard the false and defamatory statements.

- 574. Ms. McCawley's statements were not privileged.
- 575. The statements were made and published by Sigrid McCawley with actual malice, oppression, and fraud in that they were aware at the time of the falsity of the publication and thus, made said publications in bad faith, out of hatred and ill-will directed towards Plaintiffs without any regard for the truth.
- 576. Ms. McCawley possessed information and had access to information that showed her statements were false.
- 577. Ms. McCawley made statements which had no factual basis.
- 578. Ms. McCawley made intentionally false statements purporting to be fact, published and communicated those statements to hundreds of thousands of third parties faulting to, at the very least, negligence, whereas the damages and harm to Plaintiffs and their reputations is irreparable as a direct result of the defamatory statements made by Sigrid McCawley.
- Moreover, the statements tend to so harm the reputation of Plaintiffs as to lower their professional reputation in the community or deter third persons from associating or dealing with them including termination of any and all business, contracts or employment and, as such, constitutes *Prima Facie Defamation*.
- Defamation may be tolled, "during the pendency of a related lawsuit or arbitration related to the same defamatory statements" and, "the pendency of a motion to dismiss a related lawsuit may toll the statute of limitations until the motion is resolved" whereas, Plaintiffs have been involved in a pending litigation for nearly three years with Sigrid McCawley and her clients, resulting in any ability to financially afford

1 **COUNT VII - CIVIL CONSPIRACY** 2 586. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained within paragraphs 1 3 through 471, supra, as if set forth herein. 4 The unprivileged statements made by Sigrid McCawley to others about 587. 5 Plaintiffs were false and defamatory. 6 588. The unprivileged statements made by Ms. McCawley to others about Plaintiffs 7 caused complete loss and injury to Plaintiffs' businesses whereas, Plaintiffs have not 8 9 worked one single job since July 28th, 2021 including that any and all contracts and 10 agreements were immediately and prematurely terminated following Ms. McCawley's 11 conduct. 12 589. Ms. McCawley made and published such statements negligently, with 13 knowledge of the falsity of the statements, and/or with reckless disregard of their truth 14 or falsity. 15 16 590. At the time Ms. McCawley made such statements, she knew or should have 17 known that they were false and defamatory. 18 Hundreds of thousands of people actually read and/or heard the false and 591. 19 defamatory statements. 20 592. Ms. McCawley's statements were not privileged. 21 The statements were made and published by Sigrid McCawley with actual 593. 22 malice, oppression, and fraud in that she was aware at the time of the falsity of the 23 24 publication and thus, made said statements and publications in bad faith, out of hatred 25 and ill-will directed towards Plaintiffs without any regard for the truth. 26 27 28

- 594. Ms. McCawley possessed information and had access to information that showed her statements were false.
- 595. Ms. McCawley made statements which had no factual basis.
- Ms. McCawley made an express agreement with another, including but not limited to her clients, whereas Ms. McCawley's actions outside of litigation prove that she conspired to defame, harass, bully and threaten Plaintiffs in a joint effort to destroy their business, reputations, careers, ability to work and financial ability to defend the frivolous lawsuit Ms. McCawley and her clients brought forth on July 28th, 2021 to intentionally deprive Plaintiffs in an overt act in furtherance causing economic loss.
- 597. Ms. McCawley's actions resulted in "Unfair Competition" by way of coordinating efforts to spread false information about Plaintiffs, (whose names and likeness were their business), to gain an advantage, months prior to her clients filing their complaints, as to destroy Plaintiffs' reputations, careers, business, ability to work and defend themselves against the defamatory statements and litigation itself.
- 598. Sigrid McCawley unethically played to the media and the press in pursuance of conspiracy by way of making false and defamatory statements to intentionally harm Plaintiffs, resulting in financial loss, damage to reputation and severe emotional distress.
- 599. Ms. McCawley's actions were unlawful including that the defamatory statements she intentionally made and published were intentional and wrongful interreferences with Plaintiffs' business relationships.

- Ms. McCawley intentionally and knowingly made false statements about

  Plaintiffs to a mass audience, performing an unlawful act to gain notoriety and mislead
  the public and any potential juror through the media and the press to secure bias and to
  maintain the public praise which she was awarded for her representation of Virginia
  Giuffre against Epstein and Maxwell, while knowing that her clients allegations were
  false and even after presented with factual evidence proving her clients allegations
  were fraudulent.
- Moreover, the statements tend to so harm the reputation of Plaintiffs as to lower their professional reputation in the community or deter third persons from associating or dealing with them including termination of any and all business, contracts or employment and, as such, constitute *Civil Conspiracy*.
- may be tolled, "during the pendency of a related lawsuit or arbitration related to the same defamatory statements" and, "the pendency of a motion to dismiss a related lawsuit may toll the statute of limitations until the motion is resolved" whereas, Plaintiffs have been involved in a pending litigation for nearly three years with Sigrid McCawley and her clients, resulting in any ability to financially afford representation and preventing Plaintiffs from seeking recourse against Ms. McCawley until now.
- Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were intentionally and specifically timed to prevent Plaintiffs from seeking recourse against her as Plaintiffs could not afford to file claims against Ms. McCawley, as her defamatory statements *immediately* destroyed Plaintiffs' ability to work and to generate income; this was intentional so that Plaintiffs could not seek recourse against Defendant until now.

1	604.	Defendant is equitably estopped from asserting a statute of limitations as a	
2	defense and allowing her to do so would be unjust; therefore, Plaintiffs' statutes, if		
3	any, must be tolled.		
4	605.	As a direct and proximate result of the maliciously false and defamatory	
5	publication of statements to third parties by Defendant, Plaintiffs have been severely		
7	damaged.		
8	606.	Plaintiffs are entitled to punitive damages, because Ms. McCawley's	
9	defamatory statements were made with hatred, ill will, and spite, with the intent to		
10	harm Plaintiffs or in blatant disregard of the substantial likelihood of causing them		
11	harm.		
12	607.	Because Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements constitute intentional acts	
13 14	which were made with actual malice towards Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs seek an award for		
15	punitive damages.		
16		WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs Dusty and Taylor Button demand judgment against	
ا7	Defendant Sigrid McCawley for damages, punitive damages, court costs, and such other relie		
18	as the Court deems just and proper.		
19		COUNT VIII - DEFAMATION PER QUOD	
20	608.	Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained within paragraphs 1	
21	through 471, <i>supra</i> , as if set forth herein.		
22	609.	The unprivileged statements made by Sigrid McCawley to others about	
24		iffs were false and defamatory.	
25	610.	The unprivileged statements made by Ms. McCawley to others about Plaintiffs	
26		d complete loss and injury to Plaintiffs' business whereas, Plaintiffs have not	
27			
28			

1 worked one single job since July 28th, 2021 including that any and all contracts and 2 agreements were immediately and prematurely terminated following Ms. McCawley's 3 conduct. 4 611. Ms. McCawley made and published such statements negligently, with 5 knowledge of the falsity of the statements, and/or with reckless disregard of their truth 6 or falsity. 7 8 612. At the time Sigrid McCawley made such statements, she knew or should have known that they were false and defamatory. 10 613. Hundreds of thousands of people actually read and/or heard the false and 11 defamatory statements. 12 614. Ms. McCawley's statements were not privileged. 13 615. The statements were made and published by Ms. McCawley with actual 14 malice, oppression, and fraud in that she was aware at the time of the falsity of the 15 16 statements and publications and thus, made said publications in bad faith, out of hatred 17 and ill-will directed towards Plaintiffs without any regard for the truth. 18 616. Ms. McCawley possessed information and had access to information that 19 showed her statements were false. 20 617. Ms. McCawley made statements which had no factual basis. 21 618. Moreover, the statements tend to so harm the reputation of Plaintiffs as to 22 lower their professional reputation in the community or deter third persons from 23 24 associating or dealing with them including termination of any and all business, 25 contracts or employment and, as such, constitutes Defamation Per Quod. 26 27 28

- Ound may be tolled, "during the pendency of a related lawsuit or arbitration related to the same defamatory statements" and, "the pendency of a motion to dismiss a related lawsuit may toll the statute of limitations until the motion is resolved" whereas, Plaintiffs have been involved in a pending litigation for nearly three years with Sigrid McCawley and her clients, resulting in any ability to financially afford representation and preventing Plaintiffs from seeking recourse against Ms. McCawley until now.
- 620. Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were intentionally and specifically timed to prevent Plaintiffs from seeking recourse against her as Plaintiffs could not afford to file claims against Ms. McCawley, as her defamatory statements *immediately* destroyed Plaintiffs' ability to work and to generate income; this was intentional so that Plaintiffs could not seek recourse against Defendant until now.
- 621. Defendant is equitably estopped from asserting a statute of limitations as a defense and allowing her to do so would be **unjust**; therefore, Plaintiffs' statutes, if any, must be tolled.
- As a direct and proximate result of the maliciously false and defamatory publication of statements to third parties by Sigrid McCawley, Plaintiffs have been severely damaged.
- 623. Plaintiffs are entitled to punitive damages, because Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements were made with hatred, ill will, and spite, with the intent to harm Plaintiffs or in blatant disregard of the substantial likelihood of causing them harm.

1 624 Because Ms. McCawley's defamatory statements constitute intentional acts 2 which were made with actual malice towards Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs seek an award for 3 punitive damages. 4 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs Dusty and Taylor Button demand judgment against 5 Defendant Sigrid McCawley for damages, punitive damages, court costs, and such other relief 6 as the Court deems just and proper. 7 8 PRAYER FOR RELIEF 9 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request judgment against Defendant 10 Sigrid McCawley, awarding compensatory, consequential, exemplary, and punitive damages 11 in an amount to be determined at trial, including but not limited to: 12 A. Entering judgment against the Defendant on all claims made against her in 13 this Complaint; 14 B. Entering an Order directing that Defendant pay Plaintiffs reasonable fees 15 and costs pursuant to any applicable law; 16 17 C. For actual damages in an amount to be proven at trial; 18 D. For punitive damages in an amount to be proven at trial; 19 E. For costs of suit; 20 F. For pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on the foregoing sums; 21 G. For such other and further relief as the Court deems proper. 22 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL** 23 24 Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 38, Plaintiffs hereby request a trial 25 by jury on all causes of action asserted within this pleading. 26 27 28

Respectfully dated this 9th day of July, 2024, Dusty Button and Mitchell Taylor Button (Pro se) 101 Ocean Sands Ct. Myrtle Beach, SC 29579 Email: Prosecanyousee@malifence.com; Phone: 310-499-8930 Phone: 310-499-8702 

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing document was mailed as directed to 299 East Broward Boulevard #108, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 on July 9th, 2024 and sent via ECF to counsel of record for Defendant. Dated this 9th day of July, 2024, Signature of Plaintiff Dusty Button (Pro se) Signature of Plaintiff Mitchell Taylor Button (Pro se) 

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FROM:
DUSTY BUTTON AND TAYLOR BUTON OCEAN SANDS CT.
MURTLE BEACH, SC
29579

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